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TOLEDO BLADE

NATIONAL Weekly Newspaper IN THE UNITED STATES

FOUNDED IN 1836. TOLEDO OHIO: THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 1897. VOL. LXV: NO. 5.

Poetry.

THE LITTLE CHINA FIGURE.

A little china figure
On a little bracket sat,
His little feet were always crossed,
He wore a little hat.
And every morning, fair or foul,
In shine or shadow dim,
A pretty little housemaid came
And softly dusted him.

She took him up so gently,
With such a charming air,
His china soul was melted quite
He loved her to despair.
All day he sat and thought of he
Until the twilight came,
And in his china dreams at night
He breathed her little name.

One day while being dusted,
In his joy he trembled so
To feel the little fingers that,
Alas! she let him go.
In vain she tried to grab him back,
Fate willed it they should part
He fell against the fender edge
And broke his little heart.

She gathered up his fragments,
And made up a little lie,
Expounding to his mistress how
The cat had made him die.
And on the following morning, when
The shutters back she thrust,
She spoke this little epitaph;
"There's one thing less to dust."
—Chicago Times-Herald.

WHIP-POOR-WILL.

Hark! I hear the voice again,
Softly now and low,
When the twilight's o'er the plain
And the first stars glow.
This is what it uttereth—
In a rather mournful breath—
"Whip-poor-Will! Whip-poor-Will!

What has Will been doing now?
Has he truant played
With a sad, coquettish brow
From some simple maid?
Did he steal her heart away?
For I hear you always say
"Whip-poor-Will! Whip-poor-Will

Tell me now what Will has done.
Who's to whip him, dear?
Is he some scamp full of fun
That is straying near?
Have you caught him at your nest
By the ones you love the best?
"Whip-poor-Will! Whip-poor-Will!"

That is all you seem to say,
Little bird so shy.
Tell me now, without delay,
Why whip Will, O, why?
There! your voice fades in the lea—
Leaving this command to me,
"Whip-poor-Will! Whip-poor-Will!"
—Monroe H. Rosenfeld in Judge.

OUR GLORIOUS LANGUAGE.

We'll begin with box, and the plural is boxes,
But the plural of ox should be oxen, not oxes.
The one fowl is a goose, but two are called geese,
Yet the plural of mouse should never be meese.
You may find a lone mouse or a whole nest of mice,
But the plural of house is houses, not hice.
If the plural of man is always called men,
When shouldn't the plural of pan be called pen?
The cow in the plural may be cows or kine,
But a bow if repeated is never called bine.
And the plural of vow is vows, never vine.
If I speak of a foot and you show me your feet,
And I give you a boot, would a pair be called beet?
If one is a tooth, and a whole set are teeth,
Why shouldn't the plural of both be called beeth?
If the singular's this and the plural is these,
Should the plural of kiss be nicknamed keese?
Then one may be that and three would be those,
Yet hat in the plural would never be hose,
And the plural of cat is cats, not cose.
We speak of a brother, and also of brethren,
But though we say mother, we never say methren.
Then the masculine pronouns are he, his and him,
But imagine the feminine she, shis and shim!
So the English, I think, you all will agree,
Is the greatest language you ever did see.
—Boston Commonwealth.

Miscellany.

LADY BLACKWOOD'S COAT.

Dark-Green Velvet, With a Yoke of White and Gold.

Lady Terrence Blackwood sets the fashions for Americans in Paris. Her clothes are the newest and most artistic, and her styles are quickly followed. One of the latest is of velvet, with stunning collar effect.

This very beautiful box coat was dark green. The yoke and collar were

LADY BLACKWOOD'S COAT.

of white satin, embroidered in gold. The collar was a high Medici collar cut in points at the top. The yoke was cut in a point in front and two square tabs, one on either side. The whole was outlined in a heavy gold cord.

The hat Lary Blackwood wore with this coat was of green vtlvet, with two aigrettes of gold standing up in front of a large bow of heavy white satin ribbon edged with gold. Back of the bow there were two wings of changeable brown and green. This toilette sparkled in the snow and sunlight, and without being very conspicuous, it was exceedingly attractive.

Settled the Question.

Space Writer—"How shall we represent the eastern question to-day?"
Editor—"Let's see. How did we have it yesterday?"
Space Writer—"England aggressive."
Editor—"And the day before?"
Space Writer—"England weakening."
Editor—"Aw, I don't know. Here, toss up a cent. Heads, war imminent; tails, peace assured."—Texas Siftings.

Worst of All.

"It's too bad," said Gobang, "that it should have rained the first time you wore your new dress and spoiled it."

"I don't mind spoiling the dress so much," said Mrs. Gobang, "but the rain kept all the other women at home and not one of them saw my dress."—Truth.

What Caused It.

George—You do not call on Miss Rosebud now?

Jack—No, I got disgusted. She has such a coarse laugh.

"I never noticed that."

"You would if you'd been within hearing when I proposed to her."—Dublin World.

THE VIRGIN MARY

LIVED FOR YEARS AFTER THE CRUCIFIXION, NEAR EPHESUS.

Her Room of Prayer Is Still Preserved—Natives Have Kept It a Secret.

Washington, Jan. 15.—The house in which the Virgin Mary lived after the death of Christ has been found. Its discovery was not unexpected; for at intervals since its disappearance, six centuries ago, it has been thought that trace had been made to it. The house is in ruins, but there is enough of it left to show the rooms occupied by the Virgin, and to indicate what must have been the daily home routine.

The Roman Catholic University here at Washington has received news of it from the Fathers of the Order of Lazarus, to whom belongs the credit of finding it.

It is known that the Virgin Mary, after the death of Christ, went with St. John, "the Disciple whom Jesus loved," to Ephesus, and there dwelt for the remainder of her life. A house was built for her, and she was supported, it is believed, by followers of her religion, who reverenced her as the then living head of their beliefs.

For five hundred years after her death there were well-kept records of her doings in Ephesus. Such literature as there was abounded with references to her and her ways. She was called "the Good Lady" and "the Divine." And that she devoted herself to good deeds there was abundant proof until her death.

In this literature there was, unfortunately, no record of her house. All mention of its location was destroyed by a curious fatality of accident. One writer, Dagliomene, who acted as the posthumous biographer of the Virgin, went to the trouble of describing the house accurately. He told each door and window and made a word-picture of the oratory where she prayed every hour in the day.

At one place the manuscript of Daglionene was torn off, and only loose scraps of it remained for what must have been several hundred pages. When the story is again taken up it is engaged in a description of the garden of the Virgin, in which grew figs and olives surrounded by a tall border or hedge of laurels. The torn off places would have located the house, but, alas! they were gone!

Last September, while reading his religious books with renewed fervor, looking toward another anniversary of the birth of Christ, one of the Lazarus fathers discovered an old book which gave the location of the home of the Virgin more closely than any other. The good father resolved to investigate, and taking with him five scientific men, he started out from the ruined city of Ephesus to hunt down the location of the house.

After search it was found. It is situated upon a thickly wooded plateau, the hill of the nightingales, about eight miles from any village, and so well isloated through these years that the people who live in the town beyond knew not of it. The hill covers a territory of ten square miles, and the woods people, although they knew from generation to generation that the house was reverenced, have kept it a secret. It is said they feared the establishment of a shrine, and the taking away of their woodlands.

To the surprise of the Lazarus fathers it was found that the people on the hill have the firmest belief in the house of the Virgin, and have guarded the secret to the extent of cultivating the tall trees around it lest the place became known and of historic interest.

One of the roads leading to the hill is called the Gate of the Virgin, because it was along this road that Mary traveled to Ephesus weekly on errands of mercy; and there is a spreading grove of oak trees called the Woods of the Virgin, because here she daily administered to the sick.

The house is a very fine one, even in its ruins. It was known that St. John built a home for the Virgin and modelled it after the gymnasium at Athens, one of the finest public buildings of the day, but it was not supposed that such a handsome structure could have been erected so far from a town.

The house is built upon the Roman scheme of three sub-divisions. A room is in the middle and one at each side of it. A vestibule leads into the middle room.

The middle section is again divided, making it three rooms deep. The first is an ante-chamber, where guests assembled. Here it is thought the apostles met as often as possible for consultation and prayer. The second room answered as a sitting room, for there are the ruins of settles around the wall. In the middle is a large round basin, which must have been a fountain, and here the weary travelers were offered the refreshment of the times. They rested, bathed their feet and partook of olives, figs and wine.

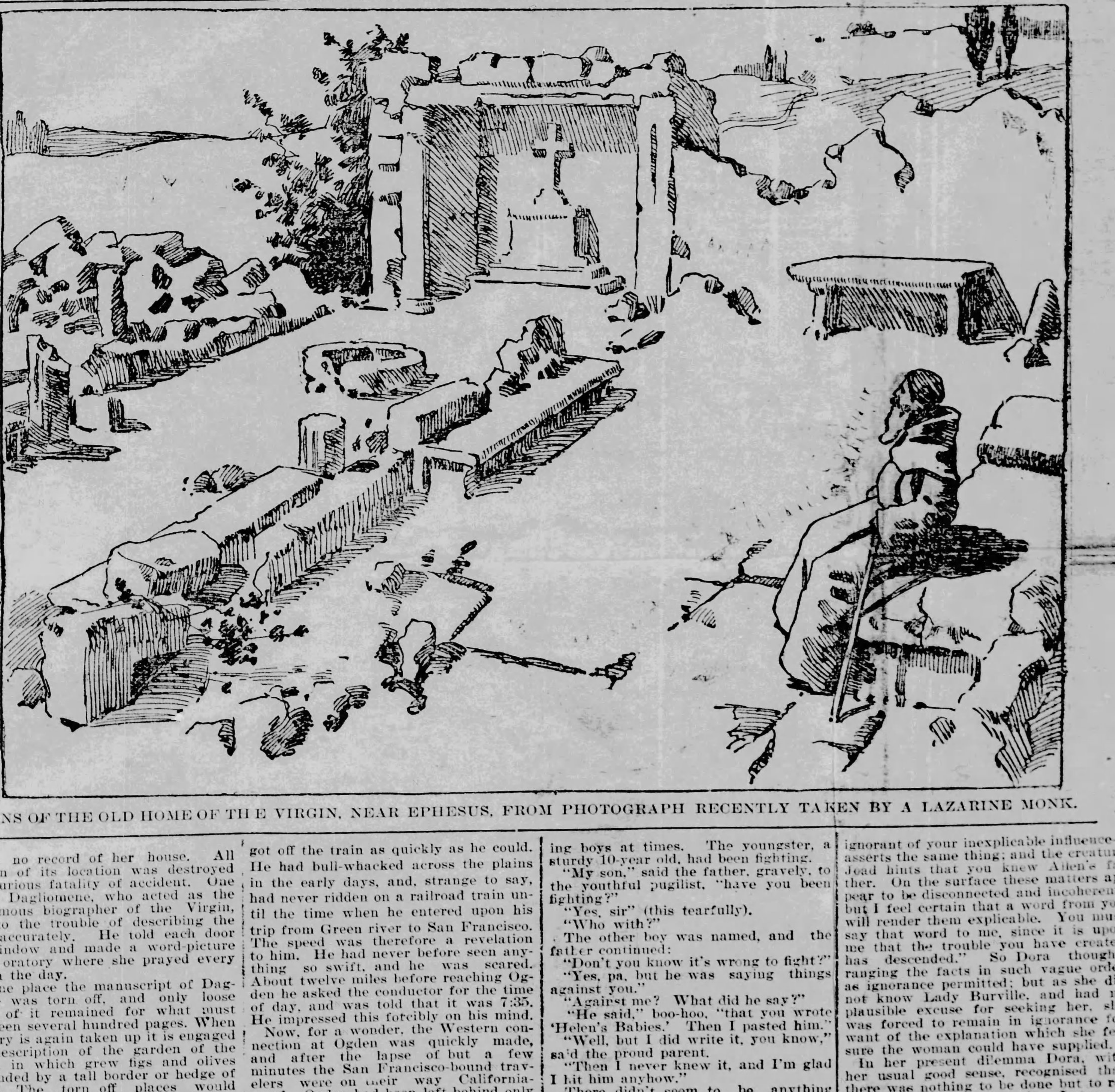
The third room is the most interesting of all. It was the place of prayer of the Virgin. It now stands the best preserved of any of the house. The people passing it pause to reverence it, and it has become a shrine that is perpetually worshiped. Nothing remains in the ruins except a standing cross and a broken bench. [illegible] from the top. It was only one story high.

The sleeping room of the Virgin was severe simplicity itself. There was a long, low bed. This still stands in place. It was a stone shelf on one side of the room. Opposite it there was a stone settle, and at one end a rude table might have been a place of worship.

The room on the left of the house was what we would call the kitchen. Here the Virgin lived unattended save by those whom she befriended; and here she cooked her simple meals and administered to such of her daily wants as were absolute necessities. The tales of her, drawn reluctantly from the country folk, as told to them generation after generation, say that she often had large gatherings of persons, most of whom were needy. All followers of the faith gathered there on her birthday. This is still observed by the country folk who make the Virgin's birthday their principal midsummer holiday.

The cooking utensils of the Virgin were found in the ruins of the kitchen. They consisted of two large flat stones, a jug, large mugs of a peculiar reddish composition, and flat plates that resemble our composition of tin. They were stronger, however, and were neither brittle nor flexible. A hollowed-out stone, stained with a dark substance must have been the lamp used in those days.

The discovery of the house of the Virgin may lead to the establishment of another Mecca, or a shrine of healing like Lourdes. It is found that the persons dwelling there have health to a marvelous degree.



RUINS OF THE OLD HOME OF THE VIRGIN, NEAR EPHESUS, FROM PHOTOGRAPH RECENTLY TAKEN BY A LAZARINE MONK.

GOT AHEAD OF FATHER TIME.

This Mormon Bishop Had Good Reason for Jumping From Train.

Speed was once demonstrated on a Western road in a fashion to curl the hair of at least one old Mormon bishop, says the Chicago Record. The churchman considered it a phenomenon, and got off the train as quickly as he could. He had bull-whacked across the plains in the early days, and, strange to say, had never ridden on a railroad train until the time when he entered upon his trip from Green river to San Francisco. The speed was therefore a revelation to him. He had never before seen anything so swift, and he was scared. About twelve miles before reaching Ogden he asked the conductor for the time of day, and was told that it was 7:35. He impressed this forcibly on his mind.

Now, for a wonder, the Western connection at Ogden was quickly made, and after the lapse of but a few minutes the San Francisco-bound travelers were on their way Californiaward. Ogden had been left behind only a few miles and the train was whooping along at a behind-time rate of speed, when the old bishop, frightened and trembling, dared to ask the conductor what was the time of day.

If you have traveled westward you know that at Ogden the time changes, and San Francisco time, one hour earlier, is adopted. The conductor had San Francisco time, and he said:

"It is 7:10—ten minutes after seven."

The old bishop, previously haunted by a dread of impending destruction because of the horrible rate of speed at which he was being whirled through space, rose with a wild cry and made for the door.

"Lemme off!" he cried. "It was 35 minutes after seven an hour ago, an' we're goin' so fast we are goin' faster than time can count itself. Lemme off!"

Had he really been going as fast as the old man had believed he would surely have been beaten to bits as he jumped from the train. As it was he was only rolled something like half a mile, and was carried back to Ogden on a hand-car.

HINDU FESTIVAL.

Religious Ceremonies That Secure Absolution for the Participants.

Far more picturesque is the religious ceremony in which the festival culminates. The night of full moon being the last of the five set apart, all who have souls to be saved take down the steps of the "ghats" to the water's edge little rafts made of rushes, on which lights are placed, together with scraps of paper containing, presumably, a brief record of their sins. The rafts are launched on the sacred waters; and then, if they float away into the outer darkness, those who send them forth receive absolution in full for the sum of their offenses. It was just the same doctrine of absolution that stirred up the wrath of the early reformers of our own church, but it still continues here, to give as great comfort as it ever did to the pious believer. Dotted about with these lights, the lake had a charming and romantic appearance, whilst at one end, outlined with myriads of lamps, stood the graceful structure of the Jodhpore Temple. It is, I should say, customary, for many of these Rajput states to keep their distinct and separate temples in the sacred place. Of ordinary bathing there is plenty all day and every day. One particular stage is used by Brahmans only, and some indignation was expressed because, all unwitting, we ventured on the steps. If one sees all these thousands washing in the green and slimy water, not only themselves but their clothes, too, by losing all its cleanliness bathing loses most of its attractiveness, even in the hottest day. However, to the Hindu it is an act of religious exercise, and, as it is in itself godliness, the cleanliness matters not at all.—[illegible]

DRIFTING ONWARD.

Drifting onward—ever drifting,
Tow'rd yon shining, shoreless sea;
Farther still from earth's green landscapes,
Nearer to Eternity.
Onward—yet we know not whither
We are borne by Time's swift tide;
Heeding not the dang'rous river
Down whose darkling stream we glide.

Drifting onward—we are going
To a country all unknown;
Guard, O Lord, and keep thou, ever—
Leave us not to drift alone.
Shield us from the water's perils,
Save from dark and angry storm;
Let thine arm of might defend us
Evermore from every harm.

Drifting onward—we will anchor
At the heavenly port at last;
Every care and trial ended—
All our toils and dangers past.
Happy on that shore Elysian,
Nevermore shall storm-clouds frown;
Oh, the bright, unfading vision,
Where no paling sun goes down.
—Francis A. Simkins.

RESENTED AN INSULT.

Why John Habberton's Young Son Whipped a Playmate.

An oddly assorted, but interesting pair often seen down-town together are John W. Habberton, author of "Helen's Babies" and half a dozen other well known publications, and his son, tells a New York paper. Mr. Habberton is a light, rather short, elderly man, with gray hair and mustache, and a rather uncertain, halting manner. His son is a powerful, big fellow, standing about six feet two, and walks with the positive, aggressive swing of an athlete. The youngster has no use for the writing trade and is in business. There is a good story told about young Habberton by his father. Shortly after the publication of "Helen's Babies," and while that book was being generally discussed, the elder Habberton, coming home one night, found himself confronted by one of those domestic problems which meet most fathers of growing boys at times. The youngster, a sturdy 10-year old, had been fighting.

"My son," said the father, gravely, to the youthful pugilist, "have you been fighting?"

"Yes, sir" (this tearfully).

"Who with?"

The other boy was named, and the father continued:

"Don't you know it's wrong to fight?"

"Yes, pa, but he was saying things against you."

"Against me? What did he say?"

"He said," boo-hoo, "that you wrote 'Helen's Babies.' Then I pasted him."

"Well, but I did write it, you know," said the proud parent.

"Then I never knew it, and I'm glad I hit him anyhow."

There didn't seem to be anything more to say, so it was left unsaid.

"A TIME LOCK."
—Copyrighted.

Squirrels.

"I was driving along a fairly good mountain road in East Tennessee when I came to a place where for two miles it was the worst stretch of road I ever saw," said a traveling salesman to one of our reporters. "I had to get out and lead my horse and lift the buggy wheels around the rocks, taking nearly two hours to go the two miles.

"At the first stopping place I inquired: 'Why don't don't they fix this road?'

"'They do. Law makes 'em wu'k it,' was the reply.

"'The last two miles are the worst I ever saw,' I said.

"'Y-a-a-s. Yo' see, they don't never wu'k them two miles.'

"'Why not?'

"'I dunno. Yo' see, when we go ter wu'k ther roads we allus takes our rifles er long ter git squirrels. Thar's a heap o' squirrels all erlong that road, 'ceptin' jess them two miles, so in cose we don't wu'k them.'"—Washington Star.

The Solution.

It was an hour past midnight, and Mr. Binns was fumbling about in the hall and mumbling angrily to himself.

"What's the matter?" called out Mrs. Binns from the floor above.

"There's two hatracks here," he answered, "an' I don't know which one to hang my hat on."

"You've got two hats, haven't you?" rejoined Mrs. Binns. "Hang them on both."—Dublin World.

Good for the Health.

Jenks (who has taken to horseback riding and bounces about ten inches at every step)—"Ah, howdy do, Binks? I think horseback riding is good for the health, don't you?"

Binks—"Yes, indeed. All who see you will be benefited. Laugh and grow fat, you know."—New York Weekly.

An Age of Competition.

Bertie and Gertie (finishing prayers)—"Amen!"

Bertie—"I was done first."

[illegible]

Our Serial Story.

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"The Clock Struck One"

By FERGUS HUME,

Author of "The Mystery of a Hansom Cab," "The Lone Inn," "The Expedition of Captain Flick," "The Mystery of Landy Court, etc.

CHAPTER V.—MR. EDERMONT'S HIGH SPIRITS.

After that extraordinary conversation with Allen's housekeeper, Dora returned home more mystified than ever. Like every one else, Mrs. Tice hinted at secrets of the past likely to affect the future, yet refused any explanation of such hints. Edermont and Joad acted in the same unsatisfactory manner, and allen, to avoid questioning, absented himself from her presence. It was all very tiresome, she thought, and perfectly inexplicable. Only one fact stood out clearly in Dora's mind—namely, that Lady Burville was responsible for all this confusion; therefore, she argued, Lady Burville must hold the clue to a possible disentanglement. This was logical.

Had Dora obeyed the impulse of her nature, she would have gone directly to the cause of these perplexities, and have demanded an unravelment. She would have put her questions in the crudest form, thus: "My guardian was moved by the sight of you; and he orders me to avoid you. Your name formed the gist of conversation between my guardian and my lover, with the result that Mr. Edermont tells me I shall never marry Allen. Mrs. Tice—who is ignorant of your inexplicable influence—asserts the same thing; and the creature Joad hints that you knew Allen's father. On the surface these matters appear to be disconnected and incoherent; but I feel certain that a word from you will render them explicable. You must say that word to me, since it is upon me that the trouble you have created has descended." So Dora thought, ranging the facts in such vague order as ignorance permitted; but as she did not know Lady Burville, and had no plausible excuse for seeking her, she was forced to remain in ignorance for want of the explanation which she felt sure the woman could have supplied.

In her present dilemma Dora, with her usual good sense, recognised that there was nothing to be done but to remain quiescent, and wait. Later on Allen would return from London—indeed, Mrs. Tice expected him back that day—and then he would be forced to explain his conduct. That explanation might put the matter in a plain light, and do away with the fiats of Mrs. Tice and Edermont regarding the impossibility of her marriage with Allen. Come what may, Dora was resolved that she would not give up her lover and spoil her life. But pending explanation, and resultant adjustment of the situation, she held her peace. The future was—the future. Dora knew no more than that.

For a week after that day of mysteries, life progressed as usual at the Red House. Joad came and went with his usual punctuality, and eyed Dora in a furtive manner, with a distinct avoidance of explanation. Edermont recovered his nerve to some extent, and moved in his accustomed petty orbit; and Dora, lacking other interests, attended to her household duties. To a casual spectator, all things would seem to be going on as usual; the life would have appeared tranquil and dull; but this was but surface calm. Beneath, dangerous elements were at work, which later on were destined to—but it is no use to recur to the hackneyed simile of a sleeping volcano.

All these seven days nothing was heard of Lady Burville, or of Allen. The former still continued to be a guest at Hernwood Hall, the latter still remained in London. Not a line had been received from him by Dora, and, hurt in her maidenly pride, she became offended by his continued silence. Whatever extraneous circumstances had led to his behavior, she had not caused the breach—for breach she considered it—between them. Twice or thrice she had determined to go over to Canterbury and question Mrs. Tice, but pride withheld her: she remained at the Red House, waiting, waiting and waiting. What else could she do?

Mention has been made of the high wall which surrounded the mansion of Mr. Edermont. This had been built by himself, and contained only two entrances—one from the road, a tall gate with spikes on the top; the other, a little door far down the right side. The house itself, like these gates, was kept always bolted and barred, and Mr. Edermont confessed to a fear of robbers. But, bearing in mind his particular prayer in the Litany, Dora was certain in her own mind that a greater fear than this moved him to take such precautions.

When Joad had retired to his cottage at nine o'clock, Mr. Edermont accompanied him personally to the gates, and saw that they were bolted and barred. Afterwards he examined the side postern, and then retreated to the mansion, where he closed the iron clamped shutters, and locked every door throughout the house. The woman who cooked and cleaned, and did all the work, was locked up in the kitchen, with bedroom adjoining, like a prisoner; Dora was [illegible] lation. Ever since Dora could remember these precautions had been taken, and by night she felt as though she were in goal. Certainly burglars could not break in; but, on the other hand, none of the three inmates could get out, unless permitted to do so by the caprice of Mr. Edermont. And on this point Mr. Edermont had on caprice.

A week after this conversation with Allen, the conversation which had terminated in so unexpected a manner, Edermont sat in his study. This was a small oak-panelled room on the left side of the house, and was entered directly from the hall. It was plainly, very penuriously, furnished, containing little beyond a bureau of innumerable drawers and cupboards, a dingy sofa, and three chairs, the most comfortable of which was placed in front of the desk. On the walls were paintings dark with age, and an assortment of flint pistols, ancient swords, savage weapons from Africa and the South Seas, and portions of rusty armour. A window looked out directly on the lawn, but there were two doors one of which led into the hall, the other, on the opposite side, into the faded and lonely drawing-room, which was never used. This latter apartment had three windows in the same position as that of the study, and also a glass door with shutters at the side of the house. The view from this door was bounded by a hedge of untrimmed laurel trees. So much for the scene. Now for the drama.

To Edermont, seated at his desk on this particular morning, entered Joad, with a card held between the dingy finger and thumb. He advanced towards his friend with a malignant grin, and dropped the card on to the blotting-pad.

"Here is something likely to startle you, Julian," said he with his usual familiarity. "Mr. Augustus Pallant, on behalf of Laura Burville, is waiting to see you."

The miserable Edermont turned pale, and began to whimper. "O Lambert, do you think he means to do me harm?"

"If he does it is on behalf of your dear Laura," replied Joad quietly; "you had better pluck up your courage, Julian, and see him."

"It might be dangerous, Lambert. Oh dear, terribly dangerous!"

"It will be more dangerous if you don't see the man."

"Why so? After 20 years Laura can do nothing."

"I am not so sure of that, Julian. She might tell Dora who she is."

The mere suggestion struck a blow at the timid heart of Edermont. "I'll see him! I'll see him!" he cried, getting nervously on his feet. "Admit him, Lambert, and bring him here. But"—he buttonholed his friend—"remain within hearing, Lambert. He might do me an injury. I am not strong, you know."

"You are a contemptible little coward!" snarled Joad, shaking him off. "I'll look after you. There is too much to lose for me to risk your death."

Edermont threw up his hands with a cry. "Not that word, Lambert; there can be no danger after 20 years. From battle, murder and sudden death, Good Lord, deliver us."

As was his custom, Joad sneered at this prayer, which Edermont had offered up daily for the last 20 years, and went out of the house. In a few minutes he returned with a tall, red-haired man, whom he introduced silently into the study. After the introduction he closed the door, and went across to his favorite seat under the cedar to await events. The first which occurred was the coming of Dora.

She had seen the introduction of the stranger from her window, and wondering what the visit might portend—for visitors were rare at the Red House—she waited a reasonable time, then sought Joad on the lawn. He looked up at her graceful figure with admiration in his eyes—a look Dora resented. It had occurred to her on more than one occasion that notwithstanding his age and physical defects this creature, as she termed him, had pesumerd to fall in love with her. However, as at present he limited his mistaken passion to looks, she merely frowned at his amorous glances, and asked her question.

"Why has Mr. Pallant called?" she demanded.

"How do you know that is his name?" asked Joad, without altering his position.

"Dr. Scott described him to me," she said curtly. "Why has he called?"

"Julian can answer that question better than I can," answered Joad, with a chuckle at baffling her curiosity, and returned to his reading.

Dora, who knew that he revenged himself thus for the frown she had bestowed on him, strove to assauge his childish petulance. "I think you might be civil, Mr. Joad," said she in an offended tone. "I have no friend but you."

"What about Allen Scott?"

"There is no question of friendship there," said Dora stiffly. "Allen Scott is my affianced husband."

"Ho, ho! Your affianced husband!" jeered Silenus, grinning. "Well, Miss Dora, while Dr. Scott holds that position, I am no friend to you."

"Why not?" asked Dora, nettled by the hinted menace in his tone.

"It's too long to explain; it's too early yet for plain speaking. But look you here, Miss Dora, a man is as old as he feels, not as he looks. I feel 22—and at 22"—he leant forward with a sly smile—"one falls in love."

"You are talking nonsense!" retorted Miss Carew, drawing back; "and your conversation is not to the point. I ask you why Mr. Pallant called to see my guardian?"

"And I answer as I answered before," replied Joad, rendered sullen by the rebuff, "that you had better ask Julian. As I am not your friend, you can't ask me to tell you my secrets."

"I don't want to know your secrets, but those of Mr. Edermont."

"Then speak to the right person," said Joad rudely. "I am not Julian."

After which speech he began reading again, utterly oblivious of the presence of the girl he admired. Dora made no reply, but went back to the house. At the door she was met by her guardian in a state of wild excitement. He ran out shouting and holding out his hands. Behind him appeared the tall and well-dressed form of Mr. Pallant.

"Dora! Lambert!" shouted Edermont wildly. "Congratulate me! My nightmare is at an end! I am free! I am safe!" Then he ran over to Joad and talked with him with much gesticulation.

Thinking her guardian had suddenly gone out of his mind, Dora turned to Mr. Pallant for an explanation. He stared at her with undisguised admiration, and she resented it, as she had done that of Joad, with a frown.

"What is the matter with Mr. Edermont?" she asked abruptly.

"Why," said Mr. Pallant in a slow and sleepy voice, "I have brought him some good news."

"What good news?"

"I think Mr. Edermont will inform you himself," said Pallant.

And at that moment Edermont, still overwhelmed with joy, came running back. "I am safe—safe!" he shouted; "and after twenty years of dread. No more of the Litany, no more of the—O God!"

His joy was too much for him, and he rolled over on the ground in a dead faint, at the very feet of Dora and Pallant.

CHAPTER VI—WHAT HAPPENED IN THE NIGHT.

And here was another mystery. Dora never learnt the good news which Pallant had brought to Edermont. The little man had fainted with excess of joy, and was carried off to bed by Joad; while Pallant took his leave of Dora, and was escorted by her to the gate. He smiled as she turned the key of the lock.

"No need for that now," said he, passing through the gate. "Mr. Edermont can sleep in peace without bolt or bar."

"On account of what you have told him to-day?"

"Precisely, Miss Carew; on account of what I have told him to-day."

Dora looked at his sneering mouth, at his bold blue eyes, and asked a question which had been in her mind since she had seen him from the window. "Were you sent by Lady Burville to tell this news, Mr. Pallant?"

"No, I came of my own accord. May I ask what you know of Lady Burville?"

"I know nothing," said Dora gloomily. "I wish I did."

"Why, Miss Carew?"

The girl did not reply. Pallant was a stranger to her, and she did not care to tell him of her belief that the fatal name of Lady Burville had made trouble between herself and Allen. Pallant noticed her hesitation.

"I see you do not wish to speak to me openly," he said, sneering, "yet you may be glad to do so some day. Good-day, Miss Carew, and remember my words."

His horse was tethered to the wall, and on bidding her farewell, he mounted to ride off. From the saddle he looked down at her fair face, and smiled. Then he made a strange remark.

"I shall give you one last warning, Miss Carew. Beware of Allen Scott!"

The girl stared after him in surprise. Was all the world in conspiracy to torture her with hints and mysteries? Joad, Edermont, Allen and Mrs. Tice all knew of something about which they refused to speak. It would seem that Pallant—a complete stranger—was possessed also of the same knowledge. What did he mean by his warning? What had he to do with Allen Scott, or even with Edermont? Dora felt as though she was spied upon by a hundred eyes; as though she were playing a mechanical part in some terrible drama, without knowing plot, or actors, or end. She was ignorant and thereby helpless.

For the next few days she tried to learn from Joad and her guardian what all these doings meant. Both of them refused to speak, and the tension of Dora's nerves was only relaxed by a letter from Allen, in which he stated that he would return on the second of August, and would see her the next day.

"He means to explain," thought the girl, putting the welcome letter away in her desk. "In two or three days I shall know why he quarrelled with my guardian, and why Mr. Pallant warned me against him. But I must scold Allen for his neglect."

The communication relieved her greatly. Of late she had been so bewildered and harassed that she had almost doubted whether Allen loved her truly. Yet he had told her so a hundred times, and she was satisfied that he spoke truly, from that subtle instinct which never deceives a woman. He loved her, he adored her, and none other than she would ever be his wife. Before that belief the dismal prophecies of Mrs. Tice and Edermont, the strange warning of Pallant, counted as nothing. Dora believed that Allen loved her and could explain away all the mysteries of the past weeks. In that belief she was content to wait.

And all this time Mr. Edermont was surprisingly bright. A weight appeared to have been lifted off his shoulders, and he looked ten years younger. He was scarcely past 50, notwithstanding his white locks and hoary beard, and he began to talk of leaving his retirement, and going out to mix with the world once more. Dora knew that he had a large income, and could afford to live in the most luxurious manner. It had often been a surprise to her that he had lived so long in seclusion and almost penury. From sundry circumstances she gathered that he had for years been laboring under a dread of death by violence; hence his anxiety that the house should be carefully locked up. Now that dread had been removed—as he more than hinted—by a communicatoni from Pallant, and he could take life easily. Looking back on the fears which had haunted him these twenty years, Dora no longer wondered at the cowardice and terror of the puny creature. Rather was she astonished that with so terrific a shadow to fight he had kept himself out of a lunatic asylum. Stronger men than he succumbed to such influences.

From force of habit, Edermont still locked up the house at night; he still sent Joad to the cottage over the road; but he no longer trembled at that tremendous prayer of the litany, nor did he look round the church searching for a possible danger. What ever the mystery of his life could be—and Dora was quite unable to guess it—that mystery had been done away with, and Edermont talked of fraternizing again with his fellow creatures.

One thing struck her as odd. When he recovered from the excess of joy carried by the communication of Pallant, he wrote a lengthy letter, and this he was particular to post himself. As a rule, Joad attended to the despatch of such rare epistles as were sent from the Red House, so Dora was astonished that her guardian should be so anxious about this especial letter. It occurred to her that it might possibly have been sent to Lady Burville, with whom she felt certain her guardian was connected in some underhanded way. But she had never learnt if her belief were correct. What she did learn, however, was that Edermont wrote to Allen at Canterbury during the last days of July; also, he sent a third letter, but to whom Dora did not know. The first and last of these communications were posted with his own hand; the middle one had been delivered to Joad in the usual way.

On the night of the second of August, Edermont dismissed Joad as usual, and locked the gates according to custom. Then he returned to bolt and bar the house. In his study he found Dora awaiting him.

"You have not seen to the little postern," she said.

"No matter," he replied impatiently. "I suppose it is locked; if not—why, I can afford to leave it as it is and sleep in peace. There is no more danger for me now."

"Of what danger are you talking, Mr. Edermont?"

"What is that to you?" he retorted, with weak defiance. "Why are you here? Go to bed and leave my business alone!"

"I will go to bed when you have answered me one question."

"Only one?" he scoffed. "You are more moderate than most women. Well?"

"Why have you written to Allen Scott?"

"Who told you I had done so?"

"Mr. Joad."

"He is too meddlesome!" cried Edermont angrily. "If he does not take care I shall dismiss him! What right had he to show you that letter?"

"Because he knows that I am engaged to Allen."

"I tell you the engagement must be broken off."

"Why, Mr. Edermont?" asked Dora indignantly.

"Allen will tell you. I wrote to him to call and see me. When he comes you shall speak to him in my presence, and from his own lips you shall hear that he can never be your husband."

"Until then, I decline to consider the engagement as broken!" said Dora, very pale, but firm. "I am not going to be your dupe, Mr. Edermont. I shall force you to explain."

"I—I forbid you to—to speak to me like this!" cried Edermont, shrinking back.

"I shall speak as I choose—I am tired of your selfish tyranny; and if Allen does not make me his wife, I shall go out into the world to earn my own living! At least I have enough to live on."

"Enough to live on?" he replied slowly. "Perhaps yes, perhaps no."

"What do you mean sir?" she demanded imperiously.

A crafty smile played over the face of Mr. Edermont, and he shrugged his shoulders. "Wait till Allen comes; then you may learn more than you care to listen to. Now go to bed. By the way, what about your toothache?"

"Toothache?"

"Joad said something about it," was Edermont's impatient remark; "you told him that toothache kept you awake at night."

"Very true. My nights have been sleepless for the last few weeks. I have heard that dreary sounding chime in the hall clock ring from midnight till dawn. But my tooth is better to-night, thank you. I have no pain, so there is every hope that I shall have a good night's rest."

"I am glad of that, my dear," said Edermont, in a softer tone than was usual with him. "I would be fond of you, Dora, if you would let me. Remember, all these years I have stood in the place of a father to you."

"I do not forget that, Mr. Edermont," answered Dora kindly; "you have been goodness itself. The parents I have lost could not have been kinder to me."

"Perhaps not so kind," said Edermont, sitting on the chair in front of his desk. "I need not talk to you about your parents, Dora."

"Why not, Mr. Edermont? I should like to know——"

"A great many things," interrupted the old man gloomily; "but for reasons of my own, which you may learn some day, I am not prepared to gratify your curiosity; and after all," he added in a significant tone, "it would do you no good to hear the story."

"It would do me this much good," said Dora spiritedly. "I should learn the obstacle which is a bar to my marriage with Allen."

"What would be the use of your knowing the obstacle, Dora? You will never get rid of it—take my word for that. Now good-night."

"Good-night," replied Dora, thinking it useless to argue further.

"I think you might kiss me before you go," grumbled Edermont. "I stand in the place of your father."

Without a word Dora returned and touched the forehead of the old man with her fresh young lips. As she passed through the door, a glance back showed her a picture which never left her memory in after life. Edermont, his noble head with its white hair leaning on his hand, sat by the bureau in gloomy thought. A single candle served rather to show than to dispel the darkness; and in the gulf of pale glimmer hollowed out of the gloom the man looked like some famous portrait by an Old Master. The burden of years was visible in his silvery hair and sweeping beard of snow; the burden of sorrow marked itself in the hollow eyes, the wrinkled cheek and forehead, the wasted hands. He looked the incarnation of eld as seen in that spectral light, in that tenebrous atmosphere. Dora never forgot that night.

Once in her room she lost no time in getting to bed. Her sleepless nights of the past week had worn her out; and now that the pain had left her tooth, she was glad to take advantage of the respite. At first she thought about her guardian and his untold miseries; afterwards of Allen's strange behavior; lastly her thoughts wandered to Joad's sly looks, and hinted terrors, until sleep rolled like a wave over her weary brain, and she became oblivious of the material world. Nature revenged herself for many vigils, and soothed her into sound slumber.

How long she had been asleep she did not know, but suddenly, for some inexplicable reason, she woke with a start, and set up in the bed, her nerves strung to their utmost tension, faculties all on the alert. It seemed to her that she had heard a muffled cry for help, a wild appeal for mercy, but now that she was listening with all her will, she could hear nothing. All was dark and quiet; not a sound broke the silence of the still night. After a moment or two Dora believed that she had mistaken a dream for a reality, and laughing softly at her own folly, lay down again to sleep. As her head touched the pillow, the deep bell of the hall clock chimed "one." Remembering how often she had heard those dreary tones in the past week, Dora smiled drowsily to herself, and was soon fast asleep again. When she again awoke it was dawn.

Some one was knocking furiously at the door of the bed-room. Dora leaped out of her bed, unlocked it, and flung it wide open. Meg Gance, the cook, stood shaking on the threshold, as pale as a ghost.

"Miss Dora! O Lord, miss!" gasped the terrified woman, "the master is—is—is dead!"

"Dead?" replied Dora, in a dazed tone.

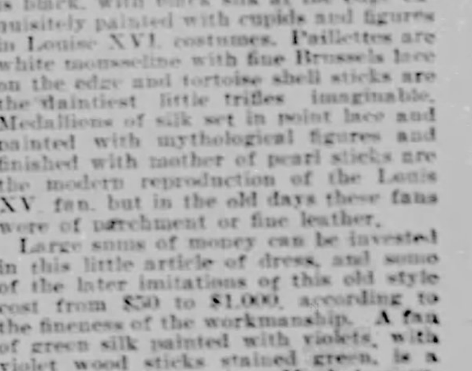
"Murdered! And his head! O Lord! 'tis bashed in like a pumpkin!"

TO BE CONTINUED.

FANS DAINTY IN STYLE.

They Are Small and Beautifully Painted—Some Are Very Costly.

The most expressive little accessory of a woman's dress is her fan, if she but understands the art of using it. French fans are the most attractive and dainty in design. Size is the important point in the fashion of fans just at present,



since they must be very small, and if we go back to the time of our great-grandmothers and resurrect their tiny fans, we will have the proper size for use to-day.

The Empire and Louise Quinze fans are the popular shapes. The sticks are of mother-of-pearl, ivory, tortoise shell, ebony, and violet wood, beautifully enamelled and inlaid with gold. Black mother-of-pearl is a novelty this season, and the ornamentation of gold shows off with good effect on the dark background. Despite the small size, these fans display the most perfect specimens of fine painting in Watteau figures, est mounts are transparent with various designs in silk introduced at the top like the one illustrated. The sticks are in black pearl, and the mousseline de soie is black, with black silk at the edge exquisitely painted with cupids and figures in Louise XVI. costumes. Paillettes are white mousseline with fine Brussels lace on the edge and tortoise shell sticks are the daintiest little trifles imaginable. Medallions of silk set in point lace and painted with mythological figures and finished with mother of pearl sticks are the modern reproduction of the Louis XV fan, but in the old days these fans were of parchment or fine leather.

Large sums of money can be invested in this little article of dress, and some of the later imitations of this old style cost from $50 to $1,000, according to the fineness of the workmanship. A fan of green silk painted with violets, with violet wood sticks stained green, is a charming little novelty. Much less expensive are the Chinese fans of fine crepe painted flowers.—New York Sun.

Informed.

"So Mr. Skinner has failed!" exclaimed the man who always makes himself at home.

"Yes, sah," replied the colored man who was employed around the store.

"Do you know what his principal liability is?"

"Yes, suh. Ef many mo' folks comes 'roun' pesterin' him he's liable ter buy hisse'f er railroad ticket an' let 'em settle up de business de bes' way dey kin."—Washington Star.

Question Bureau.

RULES.—1.—Real name and address must be written with every question. 2.—Only one question at a time. 3.—Don't ask for addresses of persons, or of firms, nor where to buy or sell anything, for such answers are free advertising. 4.—Don't ask about the reliability of any person or firm. 5.—We reserve the right to reject any question whose answer would not be of general interest; and will answer no mathematical problems, questions of law, etc. 6.—No answers by mail.

"The Fighting McCooks."

"Will you kindly inform me what relation, if any, Gen. A. G. McCook, of New York, is to Major-General A. McD. McCook, United States army?"—J. W. W., Elizabethton, Tenn.

Gen. Anson G. McCook is a son of John McCook, and a cousin of Gen. Alex. McDowell McCook, who is a son of Daniel McCook. John and Daniel were brothers. Their sons were known as the "tribe of John" and the "tribe of Dan."

Daniel McCook was born in Pennsylvania in 1798, and removed first to New Lisbon and then to Carrollton, Ohio. At the beginning of the civil war, though 63 years of age, he was commissioned major, and fell mortally wounded while leading an advance party to oppose John Morgan on his raid, at Buffington's Island, July 21, 1863. He had ten sons—"the tribe of Dan"—all of whom were in the Union army.

John McCook, his brother, was born in 1806, and during the civil war served for a time as a volunteer surgeon in the Union army. He had five sons—"the tribe of John"—who all enlisted in the Union army.

The "tribe of Dan" had the following leading members:

Geo. W. McCook, born 1821 died 1877.

Brig. Gen. Robert L. McCook, born 1827, shot in an ambulance by Confederate guerillas near Salem, Ala., August 6, 1862.

Gen. Alex. McD. McCook, born 1831, now living.

Gen. Daniel McCook, born 1834, killed in leading the assault on Kenesaw Mountain, July 21, 1864.

Gen. Edwin Stanton McCook, born 1837, died at Yankton, Dak., September 11, 1873.

Charles Morris McCook, born in 1843, killed at the battle of Bull Run, July 21, 1861, in sight of his father, who had volunteered as nurse.

John James McCook, born 1845, breveted colonel for his services, now living.

The leading members of the "tribe of John" were:

Gen. Edward Moody McCook, born 1833, now living.

Gen. Anson George McCook, born 1835, now living.

Dr. Henry Christopher McCook, born 1837, served for nine months in the army as first lieutenant and chaplain.

Roderick Sheldon, born 1839, served in the navy, died 1886.

Rev. John James McCook, born 1843, served a short time as lieutenant in the First Virginia volunteers, still living.

The McCook family is certainly the most remarkable one of soldiers developed by the war, and fully earned the title of the "fighting McCooks."

Money Plank of 1892.

"Did Grover Cleveland run on a platform constructed by the National Democratic convention in 1892, declaring for the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1?"—J. W. R., Minerton, O.

No, it did not declare for free coinage at 16 to 1. Here is the Democratic currency plank of 1892:

"We denounce the Republican legislation known as the Sherman act of 1890 as a cowardly makeshift, fraught with possibilities of danger in the future, which should make all of its supporters, as well as its author, anxious for its speedy repeal. We hold to the use of both gold and silver as the standard money of the country, and to the coinage of both gold and silver without discriminating against either metal or charge for mintage, but the dollar unit of coinage of both metals must be of equal intrinsic and exchangeable value, or be adjusted through international agreement, or by such safeguards of legislation as shall ensure the maintenance of the parity of the two metals, and the equal power of every dollar at all times in the markets, and in payment of debt; and we demand that all paper currency shall be kept at par with and redeemable in such coin. We insist upon this policy as especially necessary for the protection of the farmers and laboring classes, the first and most defenseless victims of unstable money and a fluctuating currency."

You will note that the plank declares that "the dollar unit of coinage of both metals must be of equal intrinsic and exchangeable value." This can not mean free coinage at 16 to 1, for at that ratio the silver dollar would be worth only about half the intrinsic value of the gold dollar. The plank was made obscure purposely, so it could be interpreted to mean free silver in the West, and gold standard n the East.

Fourth-Class Postmasters.

"In the appointment of fourth class postmasters, do the commissions specify a term of four years, or until their successors may be appointed, when we have a change of administration as we will have when Wm. McKinley is inaugurated? The present encumbent of this postoffice was appointed as a Republican about six months after President Harrison took his seat. He, in 1892, voted for Cleveland, and has succeeded in holding this office under two different administrations, and swears that he will hold it under the McKinley administration. He is now working through both Republican and Democratic sources in this state, to secure reappointment. He claims his commission still runs for two years."—P. T. M., Waldo, Fla.

Fourth-class postmasters have no definite term of office. It is only custom which allows their holding for four years, in case of a change in the politics of the national administration. If you can prove the facts you state with regard to that postmaster, to the new fourth assistant postmaster general, after McKinley takes his seat, it is a moral certainty that he will not hold the office very long.

Mss. for Publication.

"How should I prepare Mss. before sending it for publication?"—J. G., Dresden, Kan.

The manuscript should be very clearly and plainly written, on a good quality of white paper, single sheets, large note or letter size, and only on one side of the paper. Good black ink must be used, and no interlineations, erasures, or writing on the margin should appear. If a page needs correction, re-write it. Leave abundant margin; paper is too cheap for crowding to be tolerated.

The manuscript, in spelling, punctuation, and every detail should be exactly as it is expected to appear in type.

Don't roll manuscript. Most editors refuse to examine rolled MSS., the Blade's editor among them. Don't fold the sheets, but get an envelope large enough to hold them without folding. Inclose return postage; or, better, an envelope of the proper size, addressed to yourself, with postage stamps affixed.

Use every pains to make your manuscript easy to read. In the East, many leading editors refuse to read any but type-written copy.

The Franco-Prussian War.

"In a recent debate of the late Franco-German war the question arose as to the part the navies took, France at that time having the second navy of the world. I am unable to find any satisfactory statement in any references at hand. Would you through the columns of your valuable paper, give a short synopsis covering this matter, stating, if possible, why the navy was not depended on more?"—C. G. T., Sextonville, Wis.

There is but little to say, save that the plans of the Emperor Napoleon contemplated an immediate march on Berlin, while those of Prussia had Paris as their aim. The Prussian navy was trivial, and the French navy appears to have been inactive. All possible effort was concentrated on the land movement.

"Allspice."

"Is not the word "allspice" applied to a mixture and not to one single species?"—R. S. C., Langston, Okla.

No. The English word "allspice" is applied to that variety of spice known as Jamaica pepper. When it was first introduced from the West Indies, the English merchants named it allspice because to them it had the taste of pepper, cloves, nutmeg, cinnamon, etc., mingled, and not because it was itself a mixture. The botanical name of the plant is Eugenia pimenta. It is a native of South America and the West Indies, especially Jamaica. It is a most beautiful tree, 25 or 30 feet high, with broad oval leaves, covering the branches with luxuriant evergreen foliage. The flowers are small, and each succeeded by spherical berries. A single tree produces, at a full crop, 150 pounds of the raw berries, or 100 pounds of the dried spice. They bear abundantly, however, only once in five years.

Your other questions have been handed to the Farmstead editor, as they belong in that department.

International Free Trade.

"Would international free trade be beneficial to mankind?"—S. J. L., Sharon, Mo.

We do not think so; but why discuss so abstract a question? There is no civilized nation but Great Britain which has anything approaching free trade, and there is no probability of its extension. All governments have to raise a good share of their revenues by duties on imports, and it is much easier to raise money in that way than by direct taxation.

Kentucky's Vote.

"If A bets B that McKinley will carry Kentucky and McKinley gets the majority of the popular vote and 12 out of the 13 electors, who wins?"—L. T. B., Portsmouth, Ohio.

McKinley had a majority of the popular vote in Kentucky, and a majority of the electors. Hence he carried Kentucky. Either he carried it, or else Bryan did, for it was carried. Bryan certainly did not carry it; therefore McKinley did.

Office-Holders and Citizens.

"Does a person have to be in a state so long before he can hold an office under this administration? If he does, explain how long."—S. S. H., Lancaster, Tex.

There is no law on the subject, but it is the practice to confer appointive positions only on citizens of a state who have done good party service; and a new-comer, not in a state long enough to become a voter, could hardly have done anything so marked as to entitle him to preferment over men who had lived there for years. There is always a strong feeling against interlopers, and the appointing power will naturally consider this.

Stradivarius Violins.

"M. F. states in Weekly Blade of January 7 that he has a violin, a Stradivarius Cremona, dated A. D. 1736. History says Stradivarius died 1735. I have a violin marked 'Antonius Stradivarius Cremona faciebat, Anno 1690,' with a mark of which I send a drawing. Please tell me what this means?"—A. R. G., Elbert, Col.

You are wrong. Antonio Stradivarius died at Cremona December 17, 1737. The inscription means: "Antony Stradivari made me at Cremona in 1690." The mark is of the nature of a private trade mark.

The Spoils System.

"To what were the following terms applied: 'Clinton's Big Ditch,' and 'The Spoils System?'"—V. T., Hiawatha, Neb.

The "spoils system" means the system of distributing appointive offices, from the highest to the lowest, to members of the victorious party in a national election—giving a man an office as a reward for his work for his party, irrespective of his capacity or fitness, or of the good of the government service.

The term "Clinton's big ditch" was applied to the Erie canal when it was building, because DeWitt Clinton was governor of New York at the time, and was strongly in favor of the work.

Those Campaign Flags.

"A bets B that the Republican party did not advocate or issue the American flag with the portraits of McKinley and Hobart thereon as displayed in the recent campaign. Who is right?"—M., Toledo, O.

This question was asked of us during the campaign and we investigated it. We found that the national Republican committee did not originate, nor have manufactured, the flags with the portraits on them. They were gotten up by private parties as a speculation.

Evening and Morning.

"Please tell me, if you can, when evening begins and ends; and when morning begins and ends. Cite your authority."—E. H. P., Jacksboro, Tenn.

Evening begins actually at sunset, and lasts until the end of twilight, when night sets in; but the word evening is used in common speech, in a wider sense than this. Morning begins at dawn, and ends when the sun rises, and day begins, but this word is also used in a wider sense, to embrace part or even all of the forenoon.

Two Cities.

"Please give population of New York and Chicago in 1894."—M. E., Denison, Tex.

There are no figures for that or last year except mere estimates. The national census of 1890 is the last reliable enumeration. By it New York had 1,515,301 inhabitants, and Chicago 1,099,850. The state census of New York city in 1892 showed 1,801,739, and a school census of Chicago in the same year showed over 1,400,000. There are no later figures.

The Cold New Year.

"Please state when, during the war, we had the cold New Year?"—M. E., Denison, Tex.

That cold New Year's Day was January 1, 1864.

Miscellaneous.

Reader, Olympia, Wash.: Jefferson Davis was a member of the Protestant Episcopal church.

L. M. L., Weissport, Pa., asks for the poem, "New England's Dead." Who will send us a copy?

J. D., Eifort, O.: We published all those songs a year or so ago, and can not take space to republish.

J. W. D., Darby, Mont.: We are not certain. Write to your Congressman at Washington, who will be glad to tell you.

A. M. G., Delta, O.: We are sorry to say we can not tell you. Go to some large bookstore and have them look through publishers' catalogue.

W. F. H., Marion, Ind.: The course of study for the degree of Bachelor of Science differs in different colleges. The catalogue of any college will give its own requirements therefor.

A. T. P., Dayton, Wash.: The vote of the state of Maine for governor in 1896 was: Powers, Rep., 82,764; Frank, Dem., 34,387; Ladd, Proh., 2,661; Bateman, Pop., 3,332. Power's plurality, 48,377. McKinley's plurality was 45,777.

F. E., Canby, Minn.: We have no way of ascertaining the age of Miss Williams, the original of the head of liberty on the silver dollar, except to write to her and ask, and you must excuse us for doing so ungallant a thing. She must be nearly 40, as the die was made in 1878, and she was teaching school at that time. She was married something over a year ago.

M. W., New Concord, O.: President Cleveland's official course is deserving of censure for many things, the chief of which is, of course, his advocacy of a false tariff policy, which has brought three years of hard time on us all and ruin to thousands. His endeavor to replace Queen Liliuokalani on the Hawaiian throne is another. Reference to the files of The Blade will reveal ample material, but we have no file that can be mutilated by cutting.

SMILES.

Filling the Void.

"I am hungry enough to eat a horse."

"Come along with me, and we will have a couple of ponies."—Indianapolis Journal.

Different Glories.

"A woman's glory is her hair," said the pretty teacher to her Sunday school class, quoting the Biblical statement; "now, what is a man's glory?"

"His bald-headedness," ventured Tommy Taddells.—Harper's Bazar.

Her Weak Spot.

"Your hair is always so handsomely dressed, Fraulein! You must devote a good deal of attention to it!"

"Yes, I must confess my head is my chief weakness!"—Das Kleine Witzblatt.

A Busy Suitor.

Old Bullion—What! You wish to marry my daughter? She is a mere school girl yet.

Suitor—Yes, sir. I came early to avoid the rush.—Clips.

Hard on Father.

Willie—I should think you would be ashamed to have your mother put you to bed.

Bobbie—I don't know why I should. She does the same thing to father.—Life.

What Would My Captain Say?

Frederick the Great of Prussia used to tell a laughable story of an experience of his own. During one of his campaigns in Silesia he made it his habit to stroll through his camp in disguise at night, to come more in touch with his soldiers. One night he was stopped by a sentry, but, giving the proper password, was permitted to proceed. Instead of his doing so, however, he endeavored to tempt the sentry into accepting a cigar, saying that a smoke would solace his long watch.

"It's against the rules," said the soldier.

"But you have my permission," said Frederick.

"Your permission!" cried the soldier. "And who are you?"

"I am the king."

"The king be hanged!" said the incorruptible sentry. "What would my captain say?"—Harper's Round Table.

Answered.

Gabe Snodgrass recently applied to the Rev. Whangdoodle Baxter of the Blue Light tabernacle for some pecuniary assistance. "I jes kain' do hit," replied Parson Baxter. "I has to sport my pore ole mudder."

"But yer pore ole mudder says yer don' do nuffin' for her."

"Well, den, ef I don' do nuffin' fer my pore ole mudder, whut's de use ob an outsider like you tryin' to make me shell out?"—Texas Sifter.

At Home.

"Is Mr. Gayboy at home?" asked the caller.

"Yes, sir," replied the educated butler. "He is at home—he's at his club."—Harper's Bazar.

He Couldn't Be Bluffed.

"If you kiss me again I will call mamma."

"Well, I don't mind; she is still a young-looking woman."—Town Topics.

Woman's Work

Is never done, and it is especially wearing and wearisome to those whose blood is impure and unfit properly to sustain the wasting of nerve, muscle and tissue. The only remedy for tired, weak, nervous women is in building up by taking a good nerve tonic, blood purifier and vitalizer like Hood's Sarsaparilla. For troubles *Peculiar to Women* at change of season, climate or life, take

Hood's Sarsaparilla

The One True Blood Purifier. All druggists. $1. Prepared only by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Hood's Pills do not cause pain or gripe. All druggists. 25 cents.

Recent Literature.

Readers desiring any further information whatever about these volumes will please address the publishers, whose address is given in every case, and not inquire of The Blade. We do not deal in books.

Externals of Modern New York, by Mrs. Burton Harrison, is a supplement to The History of the City of New York, by the late Mrs. Martha J. Lamb.

In bringing down to date the general history of New York since 1880, at which point the able and conscientious chronicle of Mrs. Lamb came to a halt, it has been found possible to touch within the limits of a single chapter upon only such salient features of a great city's rapid strides in civilization as may prove interesting to the casual student of the time. For the same obvious reason—want of space—it was decided to tell the story of the last fifth of the century by "thumb-nail" sketches of the various departments of the city's work and by a brief summary of progress in social development rather than an attempt to recite incidents chronologically and separately. The book is very interesting as well as valuable and is excellently illustrated. Published by A. S. Barnes & Co., New York.

It is to be regretted that William Armstrong's novel, An American Nobleman, should have been delayed so long in reaching the eyes of readers. It was written four years ago, but the firm publishing it went out of business, and now the Rand-McNally company has rescued it from an oblivion it did not deserve. No peer of another realm, with a coronet and untold wealth, is An American Nobleman. The hero of Mr. Armstrong's tale lived and died and never rose above a workman's humble heritage in his own "Sas'fras Mountain." He was a stalwart, young backwoodsman, simple, honest and trustful. He loved a deserted woman, whom he hoped to shelter with his love, but finding her true to her miscreant husband, helped her keep her heart and home sacred to him. His own marriage to an irrepressibly wayward young woman ends in his death of fever from shock while in an enfeebled condition, and exposure.

It is not in the plot, admirably constructed, and if not ingenious, at least fresh and unwonted, that the secret of the story's success lies. It is in the depth underlying plot, description, dialogue and denouement; the knowledge and the appreciation of our better natures; in the gentleness with which our worst natures are handled; in the humor with which the characters are conceived, and in the catholic spirit that conceived them. As to minor details, deft arrangement keeps some of the more squalid ones from indecency by original handling and a spirited anti-climax and an excessive funniness in the recital. Rand, McNally & Co., Chicago and New York.

The great literary event of the year, namely, the completion of his System of Synthetic Philosophy, by Herbert Spencer, bids fair to become a personal episode as well, in the light of Mr. Spencer's pathetic mood, as he put down his pen. It has taken thirty-six years to forge the chain—a chain which a new and sudden faith, the revival of an old one, a discoverey, almost any moral or physical revolution may snap at any moment—and there the man sits—the depressed invalid of 76 years, feeling no exultation in his immense labor, only pleasure in emancipation from it. The most the master can feel now is, as he forlornly states at the end of his preface, satisfaction in the consciousness that losses, discouragements and shattered health have not prevented him from fulfilling the purpose of his life. It is illness, it is age, possibly, and not his philosophy that represses enthusiasm in a man who has reached the pinnacle upon which Herbert Spencer stands, and it is the loneliness of the pinnacle, too, partly. No one can evolve a system of human philosophy who does not hold aloof from humanity in order to bring his lens to bear upon it. It is only the unphilsophical who can be merry with the joys of everyday, unthinking intercourse. To think compels segregation and sadness.

In view of the two generations that have passed since Herbert Spencer began his work, the personal vista is extraordinarily interesting. The bride of 18, whose youthful husband slipped from her side down a crevasse in an Alpine glacier, and whose body was recovered forty years later, untouched by time, while she was a white-haired elderly woman, could not have been much more removed in chronology from the dead than must Mr. Spencer now feel in relation to his early labors. To begin a book at 40, and end it within sight of 80! The stretch is appalling. The wonder is not that Mr. Spencer has revamped some few opinions and reversed others, but that one division of his forty-year-old philosophy will stand preliminary to his present thought. It argues for the permanency of his system more than prophecy can do.

Andria, by Percy White, author of Mr. Bailey Martin, Corruption, etc., is rather a remarkable and certainly a peculiar tale. It is a story of artistic and literary life, chiefly. The heroine is a highly-strung, loving woman, married to an author, a pessimist, so extreme as to be almost on the verge of insanity. Her husband's vacillating mental state pained yet fascinated her, but she bore the burden bravely and gained strength and purpose from her trial. The other characters are well drawn and placed, and the man she loves is a personality of great nobility. George H. Richmond & Co., New York.

Look out sharply, dearie, under weaving meadow grasses,
Under flowers, under toadstools, where the sunlight flashes,
Look out, dearie, when you find a tiny hump of ashes,
Know you that little fairy gypsies have just passed that way.

Is the little verse with which Elcy Burnham opens her new and charming volume, Modern Fairyland. The story will delight boys and girls, especially the latter. It relates the life and adventures of Princess Fernitta, daughter of the King and Queen of Fairyland, and of her lover, Prince Puck. At the christening of the baby princess a wicked fairy named Grumble-growl wishes that Fernitta, on a certain one of her birthdays, may be changed into a mortal. The wish "comes true," the dreaded change to mortality takes place, and for a time Fernitta is lost to Fairyland. Ultimately, however, she returns, and on being entrusted with the government of her native realm, introduces a number of reforms borrowed from the world of mortals, and thereby creates "Modern Fairyland." The Arena company, Copley Square, Boston, Mass.

The Tenth Biennial Report of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture and its transactions for 1895-96 has been received from Mr. F. D. Coburn, secretary of the board. The dormant idea of the report has been practical helpfulness to the people by laying before them information on modern methods practiced and the latest conclusions reached by those best equipped to give council upon different topics treated. The secretary in presenting the volume, among other things, says: "The volume is intended to be helpful in promoting the prosperity and advancement of the population of the state already has rather than to persuading the millions of less fortunate strangers that the mere fact of coming hither with unalterable, ready-made views of Kansas people and Kansas agriculture means a life of ease, perpetual June weather, a steady diet of milk and honey, monotonous political harmony and tireless pursuit by lucrative offices of everybody whomsoever.

"While Kansas, as always, offers a hearty welcome and boundless possibilities to those, either rich or poor, who appreciate health-giving climate, genial skies, soils of limitless fertility, the largest measure of school and church advantages and liberty, and a citizenship which thinks for itself rather than at second hand, her destiny is to be wrought out in the main by her present population and their descendants. Others equally worthy may come and go, but the glory of Kansas will bloom through and by virtue of those who, undismayed in evil and good report, have, with the courage of their convictions, in strong manliness and noble womanhood, been her loyal sons and daughters in the 40 eventful epoch-making years of her beginning."

Vol. XV., 1895-96, limited edition free postage, 30 cents. Capitol Building, Topeka.

The Way We Did at Cooking School, by Virginia Reed, is a recent work upon the subject of cooking, well compiled. The cooking school is one of the most modern of modern institutions, and one of the most beneficent. The Philadelphia cooking school is one of the best known, and doubtless one of the best schools of its class. There are few aspiring young housekeepers who would not like to attend such a school, and fewer still who would not be greatly benefited by doing so, but not one in a thousand of those who would highly value the opportunity has it within reach. This is a volume that, to the young housekeeper will be almost as good as a term in a cooking school. It is the minute notes of a pupil at the school, so carefully written out in all details as to be easily and clearly understood. It covers systematically the course of instruction—from it you can learn the how, and the reason why—the art and the science of good cooking. To any but the most expert housekeeper the book will prove of great interest, and worth in real money, in saving, and in making the best of things, far more than the dollar it costs. John B. Alden, publisher, New York.

Colonel Ralph de Clairmont has written an essay on the political, financiel and social condition of the United States, showing the dangers that beset the republic, the defects of its institutions and the remedies to be applied. The title of the essay is Reform. The chapters contained in the essay are on Caveat Patria; Law and Justice; Legislation; The Press; Education; Religion; Finance; Federal Government; United States Army. The appendix contains the constitutions of the United States and of the Republic of Switzerland. The Arena Publishing company, Arena company, Copley Square, Boston.

Immensee by Theodor Storm is edited for school use by F. H. Dauer. This remarkably tender and graceful romance from one of the best of German story writers is appropriately issued in the new series of Modern German Texts. Besides the story, which is printed in the best German type, the little volume contains an introduction giving an account of the author and the present work, brief literary and critical annotations by the editor for the student's help and a very complete and convenient vocabulary. The American Book Company, New York.

A Spiritual Tour of the World, by Otto A. De La Camp, will prove a work of especial interest to all persons who are attracted by the higher spiritual philosophy. It combines in a striking manner the occidental and oriental thought, logic, and intuition. The author is evidently a strong believer in evolution, and examines life from its earliest state to the clothing of the moral with immortality or the entrance of the spirit into the region of perfect harmony, where it becomes as one with God through its elimination of the selfish elements which create discord and inharmony. There is not in all the book one thought which is not familiar to any occultist; but the teachings are so well and tersely set forth, the style is so dignified, yet simple, the whole work so free from pretentious effort to display the writer's erudition, so evidently sincere, that it is indeed no burden, but only a pleasure to read it. No soul sufficiently awakened to understand the first twenty pages can fail to grasp the whole meaning of the author, or to admire his style, even if inherited beliefs and habits of thought stand in the way of complete acceptance of his views, and in these busy, hurrying days it is good to turn, for even a brief hour or two, from the accustomed routine of life and cursory reading to a patient examination of a subject which cannot fail to be of interest to any but the most superficial reader of light literature. The Arena Company, Copley Square, Boston, Mass.

The Handbook of Roman and Green History, by George Castegnier, will at once command favor for two qualities, brevity and convenience. The book is a marvel of skillful condensation and contains just the facts in regard to important persons, places and events of ancient history which every scholar ought to know or have at instant command. It is intended primarily to facilitate the work of students in reviewing subjects already studied in larger text-books, and in preparing for college examinations. It will also be found useful for general readers who wish to refresh their minds on classical and historical subjects. The flexible binding and clear print are in harmony with the purpose of the book. The American Book Company, New York.

In the Eclectic English Classic series appears An Essay on Robert Burns, by Thomas Carlyle. Carlyle's Essay on Burns is of more than usual interest and value to students of literature, as it is at once a recognized model of literary style and criticism and a lofty tribute to the name and genius of Scotland's greatest poet by Scotland's greatest thinker and writer of prose. The editor's notes to this edition are interesting and helpful. The introduction, which deals both with Carlyle and Burns, makes just the right points to impress the student before commencing the study of the essay. The American Book Company, New York.

ONLY SEVEN CHIEF JUSTICES.

One High Office in the United States Which Few Men Have Held.

The office of chief justice of the supreme court of the United States was established by the constitution concurrently with the office of president; but while the Presidency has been open to all native-born citizens above the age of 35, the office of chief justice of the supreme court, bestowed usually upon men of mature, if not advanced years, has been held in fact by seven persons only since the foundation of the government, says the New York Sun. There have been more than three times as many Presidents.

John Jay, of New York, was the first chief justice of the supreme court. He was appointed by Washington in 1789. Judge Jay was at that time only 44 years of age. When he attained the age of 50 he resigned and retired to private life. He died thirty-four yars later—in 1829. The second of the supreme court chief justices was John Ellsworth, of Connecticut. He was 54 years of age when appointed and served until 1801, when he resigned, resignations from public office being somewhat more frequent at that time than now. His successor was John Marshall, of Virginia, who was 46 years of age when he assumed this post by appointment of President John Adams; he held it uninterruptedly for thirty-four years until his death in 1835. Andrew Jackson appointed his successor Roger B. Taney, of Maryland, who held the office until his death in 1864. Judge Taney was 59 years of age when appointed, and 87 at the time of his death. No chief justice of the supreme court, perhaps, had more intricate questions to determine or to vote upon in that tribunal than did Justice Taney, and his tenure and that of Chief Justice Marshall stretch over nearly one-half of the history of the United States as a nation. Chief Justice Taney's successor was Salmon P. Chase, of Ohio, who had previously been secretary of the Treasury, and was 56 years of age when appointed. He served for nine years, dying in 1873. Mr. Chase was appointed by Abraham Lincoln, and it is a part of the political history of their day that Mr. Chase was himself a candidate for the Presidency, and had hoped to defeat Mr. Lincoln for renomination and to succeed him; and later, in 1868, it is known that Mr. Chase was a candidate for the Democratic nomination for the Presidency, though he had been one of the founders of the Republican party. Chief Justice Chase was succeeded in 1873 by President Grant's appointment of another Ohio man, Morrison R. Waite, who was 57 years of age when appointed and served until 1888, when he was succeeded by the present chief justice, Melville W. Fuller, appointed by President Cleveland. Mr. Fuller is a native of Maine. He was, when appoined, 55 years of age and will be 64 on Feb. 11 next. He is the seventh of the chief justices of the supreme court and has served, thus far, a briefer term than any of his predecessors since Chief Justice Ellsworth.

In addition to the chief justices who have served, several men have been nominated for the office, but rejected by the senate, which has confirmatory power. The office of chief justice is by many citizens more highly coveted than that of the Presidency. The labor is less, the responsibility much smaller, the tenure longer and the honor an exalted one.

Free.—A Wonderful Shrub.—Cures Kidney and Bladder Diseases, Rheumatism, Etc.

New evidence shows that Alkavis, the new botanical product of the Kava-Kava Shrub, is indeed a true specific cure for diseases caused by Uric acid in the blood, or disorders of the Kidneys and urinary organs. A remarkable case is that of Rev. A. C. Darling, of North Constantia, N. Y., as told in the New York World of recent date. He was cured by Alkavis, after, as he says himself, he had lost faith in man and medicine, and was preparing to die. Similar testimony of extraordinary cures of Kidney and bladder diseases of long standing comes from many other sufferers, and 1,200 hospital cures have been recorded in 30 days. Up to this time the Church Kidney Cure Co., No. 418 Fourth Avenue, New York, are the only importers of Alkavis, and they are so anxious to prove its value that for the sake of introduction they will send a free treatment of Alkavis prepaid by mail to every reader of The Blade who is a Sufferer from any form of Kidney or Bladder Disorder, Bright's Disease, Rheumatism, Dropsy, Gravel, Pain in Back, Female Complaints, or other affliction due to improper action of the Kidneys or Urinary Organs. We advise all Sufferers to send their names and address to the company, and receive the Alkavis free. To prove its wonderful curative powers, it is sent to you entirely free.

HIGHEST BRIDGE IN EUROPE.

One of the Noteworthy Features of the Prussian State Line.

The most noteworthy feature in connection with the new Prussian state line, which is now in course of construction between the industrial centers of Remscheid and Solingen, will be the viaduct spanning the Wupperthal at the little town of Mungsten, says Popular Science News. When completed, the structure will enjoy the distinction of being the loftiest of its kind on the European continent.

The total height of the Douro bridge in Portugal is 62 m., or about 204 feet, whereas the viaduct at Mungsten will attain an altitude of 107 m., or about 353 feet. The span of the center arch at Mungsten will be 170 m., or about 557 feet. Upward of 1,700 tons of iron work will be required for the principal arch, and the total quantity of iron employed on the viaduct will amount to 4,000 tons. The cost of the viaduct is estimated at $625,000.

THREE LITTLE ONES.

"It seems somebody has told her she looks perfectly killing smoking a cigarette. I wonder who it could be?"

"The doctor, perhaps."

Missionary—I had a very dear friend who came to your island long ago to labor among you—the Rev. Mr. Puddington. Ah, he was a delightful man.

Umbobo, the Savage Chief—Delightful is not the word, sir. Um-um. He was delicious.

Mrs. Newlywed—Oh, dear Jack, the rats have ate up all of my angel cake.

Mr. Newlywed—Aha. I knew we'd settle those rats sooner or later.

A Domestic Note.

"They say women can always pick out goods that will wash."

"True enough; but why do they always pick out children who won't?"—Chicago Record.

Rare Consideration.

"Nearly 3 in the morning! This is a nice time for you to come home!"

"You see, it was this way, my dear. I was detained a little, so I put off coming home for a bit longer, so that I should not disturb you in your beauty sleep."—Judy.

A Woman Speaks.

"Just look at her bicycle dress. I should think she would hide her head."

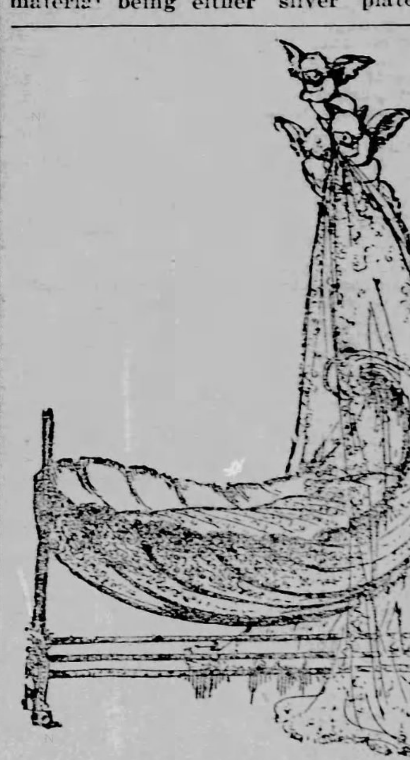
"Why her head?"—Detroit Tribune.

A SHELL CRADLE.

Cleanly Device for the Slumbers of the Well and Strong Baby.

Babies should be hearty, for there were never so many things made for their health and comfort. The newest of these is a shell cradle, that can be used for play as well as for sleep.

This cradle is all in one piece, the material being either silver plate or



SILVER AND LACE.

white metal. There are solid silver shells for the gold spoon baby and aluminum shells for mothers that want a very light cradle, one that is easy to lift from room to room.

The shell is hung from two rods, one at either end. Its pivot is such that it swings at a touch. When baby is awake he can amuse himself by swaying his cradle back and forth. A wire framework supports the canopy, which is of lace, upheld by metallic cupids. The lace can be drawn entirely over the sleeping baby.

Wicker clothes-baskets can be used in the same way, but a carpenter must be employed to fasten the basket to the uprights, or baby will be startled from his slumber by a fall. Cradles of metal are best, because they can be kept thoroughly clean. When the small springs and bedding are removed, the cradle can be washed like a dish.

NEWSPAPER WIT.

"Big accident at the theater last night." "What?" Scene shifter fell off the roof of Elsinore Castle and crushed Yorick's skull."—Philadelphia North American.

In Kentucky travelers say a general store is usually kept by a colonel. This is true in the major portion of the state, if private information can be relied upon.—Somerville Journal.

Watts—Does your wife believe the stories you tell her to account for your being out so late? Lushforth—She does. "How in thunder do you work it?" "I tell her I was busy getting drunk."—Indianapolis Journal.

"Do you think they will allow us to scorch in the next world?" asked the bicycle crank. "Some of you will get a permit, sure," answered his little wife, who had long been jealous of his wheel. —Detroit Free Press.

"I shall hold him in sweet remembrance," said the potentate of Bwkplo. He could hardly have done otherwise. Even at home the young missionary had been spoken of as one of excellent taste. —Cincinnati Enquirer.

Robert—But why are you so certain that you will live happily with Miss Browne? You have not been much in her company, notwithstanding your engagement to her. Richard—No. I've been more sensibly employed. I have been studying the temperament and peculiarities of her mother.—Boston Transcript.

"I wish," said Satan anxiously to his aid, "that before you run them in you would examine carefully that new invoice of souls!" "You seem worried," remarked his aid. "To tell the truth," added the king of evil, "I'm afraid there is some mistake. I distinctly heard one of them tell another that he never had sworn off anything on New Year's."—New York Press.

Two or three young women who are interested in art were discussing the other. "Did you ever see anything like the color of her cheeks?" "And yet the men admire them. One said to me the other evening that they looked just like peaches." "The idea. What did you answer?" "I said that he was probably right; that Mamie was noted for being good at still-life studies."—Washington Star.

An up-town little girl of very tender years came home from a neighbor's house eating a large banana. "I ain't goin' to play with Mabel no more," she promptly announced. "Why?" asked her mamma. "'Cause she called me names." "Why, what did she call you?" "She called me a banana sneak." "A banana sneak? Why did she call you that?" "'Cause I sneaked her biggest banana." And she went on eating it.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY.

Take laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. 25c.

PERSONAL POINTS.

The late A. T. Stewart once said: "If you have two bushels of potatoes to sell, spend the price of one bushel in advertising the price of the other."

Of the 38 Sultans who have ruled the Ottoman Empire since the conquest of Constantinople by the Turks, 34 have died violent deaths.

A Boston lecturer announced as his subject the other night, "Marble Poems; World's Worship in Stone; the Frozen Music of the Ages." Then he went on to talk about European cathedrals.

Joseph D. Jones, Boston's oldest schoolboy, celebrated his ninety-ninth birthday last Wednesday. By oldest schoolboy the Bostonians mean oldest survivor of those taught in its public schools.

New Haven is very proud of the record of its veteran steamboat man, Commodore Richard Peck, who never had an accident during his many years of service, and at the age of 81 is still in good health.

At this season of furs, it may be of interest to mention that the Dowager Empress of Russia possesses the most expensive sable fur cloak ever made. It is valued at £12,000, and weighs only sixteen ounces, and it was presented to her majesty on her coronation by the town of Irkutsk, in Siberia, the center of the Russian fur trade. Various valuable fur cloaks possessed by other royal ladies only cost one-half this amount.

FREE CURE FOR MEN

A MICHIGAN MAN OFFERS TO SEND HIS DISCOVERY FREE.

Claims to Be a Benefactor to Weakened Mankind.

There is always more or less suspicion attached to anything that is offered free, but sometimes a man so overflows with generosity that he cannot rest until his discovery is known to the world, in order that his fellow men may profit by what he has discovered. It is upon this principle that a resident of Kalamazoo, Mich., desires to send free to mankind a prescription which will cure them of any form of nervous debility; relieves them of all the doubt and uncertainty which such men are peculiarly liable to and restores the organs to natural size and vigor. As it costs nothing to try the experiment it would seem that any man, suffering with the nervous troubles that usually attack men who never stopped to realize what might be the final result, ought to be deeply interested in a remedy which will restore them to health, strength and vigor, without which they continue to live an existence of untold misery. As the remedy in question was the result of many years' research as to what combination would be peculiarly effective in restoring to men the strength they need, it would seem that all men suffering with any form of nervous weakness ought to write for such a remedy at once. A REQUEST TO H. C. OLDS, BOX 1735 KALAMAZOO, MICH., STATING THAT YOU ARE NOT SENDING FOR THE PRESCRIPTION OUT OF IDLE CURIOSITY, BUT THAT YOU WISH TO MAKE USE OF THE MEDICINE BY GIVING IT A TRIAL, will be answered promptly and without evidence as to where information came from.

The prescription is sent free, and although some may wonder how Mr. Olds can afford to give away his discovery, there is no doubt about the offer being genuine. CUT THIS OUT AND SEND TO MR. OLDS SO THAT HE MAY KNOW HOW YOU CAME TO WRITE HIM.

NAMING THE BABY.

A Clever Mother Invented Several for Her Little Ones.

Every one knows the perplexities in most households when the time comes to name the baby. The father and mother, as the parties most interested have the greatest authority in the matter, and almost invariably have a quarrel, as each wants to bestow upon the little one a different name. The trouble often lasts for days, there are fruitless and endless discussion, and home is no home at all until the mother has her way and names the child, notwithstanding the fact that the father works for some other name like a railroad lobbyist at a session of the state legislature.

There is an Owosso, Mich., woman, mother of a large family, who has had her own way in the naming of successive babies, and the result is certainly unique. When her seventh child was born her husband jokingly remarked he guessed they had used up all eligible names on the other six, and he, for one, was in favor of giving the newcomer, who was a boy, a number instead of a name. His wife replied that he should have a number and name in one, and the youngster was forthwith christened "Severn." After awhile number eight was born, and he rejoices in the name of a family friend, William Aten. Happily the next little stranger was a girl, and she was called Nina; then a good looking, dark-eyed boy was born, and he was dubbed Tennyson.

Last week the eleventh child was ushered into the world, and the gossips of the neighborhood, who had watched this original method of naming with stern disapproval, agreed that it was impossible to continue the system further, as eleven was a hard one to incorporate in a name. But they did not know the resources of the quick-witted mother. After days of search among books, sacred and profane, the little boy is entered in the family register as Delevan—with the accent on the "Del." The gossips have now given up in despair, and agree that the mother is equal to all future emergencies.—Detroit Journal.

GRAY CLOTH SKATING SUIT

A Tailor-Made, for Wear on the Ice in Any of the Winter Sports.

They have at last found a "tailor-made" that can be worn skating or golfing, or at any winter ahtletics. It is peculiar in pattern, but very pretty in effect. One of these dresses was made for a girl of graceful figure who likes to look like a snow-bird in winter.

TAILOR-MADE SKATING SUIT.

The material was a fine gray broadcloth or a very close quality of ladies' cloth. Inside there was a full lining to give the dress as much body as possible. The cut was a princess, very snug in the waist line and moderately large in the sleeves.

Over this was worn a short-waisted jacket very like an Eton. It had full sleeves and was high in the neck, buttoning with frogs across the front.

The only color in the dress was a double border of mink around the foot and a similar bordering around the jacket with a boa and muff of mink. A soft loose cap of gray broadcloth, striped with black braid, set well back upon the head.

As the wearer skated, there were glimpses of a scarlet dress lining and of stockings in the same hue.

—Others have found health, vigor and vitality in Hood's Sarsaparilla, and it surely has power to help you also. Why not try it?

Fanny Davenport's Gladdest New New Year.

Five years ago this coming New Year's I was playing an engagement in Los Angeles, Cal., and a party who sat in the box kept staring at me continuall. The faces seemed familiar, but I could not place them. At the end of the fourth act one of the ladies rose in the box and thre wat my feet a large bunch of roses. On taking them to my dressing room I discovered a card saying: "To our benefactress." There was also a locket studded with rubies and diamonds with the inscription, "To Fanny Davenport, from her childhood friends. Happy New Year, January 1, 1891."

All of this recalls a little incident which I never can forget. During childhood, I had for neighbors a wealthy English family. The girls and myself were inseparable. Their father went to California and the family soon left and joined him. This was the last I had seen of them. It appears that the father speculated in mines and soon became ruined. They returned East, and it came to my knowledge that their homestead was to be sold over their heads. I had my lawyer call on the bank that held the mortgage and kept paying the interest, but had it kept a secret, as I knew they would be too proud to accept aid even from me.

Years rolled by, and by the death of relatives in England they came in possession of a little money. One of the boys was a consumptive. They moved to Los Angeles, where they invested in real estate. The "boom" came and they again regained their fortune. Somehow they found out it was I who paid that little interest, and on this New Year's was our first reunion in twenty years. After the night performance I had them at my hotel to supper and it was the happiest New Year's day I have ever experienced.—New York World.

Why He Was Thankful.

"Well," said the sarcastic man as he walked out of the theatre between acts, "I'm ever so much obliged to that girl who sits in front of me. I don't know but I'll tell her so."

"You mean the one with the frightfully big hat?"

"Yes."

"I don't see what you're obliged to her for."

"For not raising her parasol."—Washington Star.

The Trouble.

Mrs.—"Am I still 'the star of your life,' as I was when you used to write love letters to me?"

Mr.—"Of course, dear."

"I don't seem to be drawing a star salary, though."—Indianapolis Journal.

Not Nearly.

Reginald—How stupid Miss Jennings is! I took her into dinner the other night and she never said a word.

Jack—You were in luck, old fellow. She wasn't nearly as stupid as she would have been if she had talked.—Harper's Bazar.

The Cabby's Christening.

Parson—"What shall we call it?"

Cabby (absent-mindedly)—"Oh, I leave that entirely to you, sir!"—London Figaro.

Young men or old should not fail to read Thos. Slater's offer on page 3.

The Farmstead.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Injury to Grape Vine.

Amateur, Tennessee: There are two insects that damage grape vines in the manner of which you speak, the grape root worm and the phillexera. The grape root insect has, no doubt, attacked your vine. The first of the species was noticed in this country in the year 1866, and was sent from Kentucky to the Illinois state entomalogist. The insect seems to prefer the Norton's Virginia and Concord grape. It is distributed over a wide extent of the country. It has been quite prevalent in Missouri. A small chestnut brown beetle appears on the vines about the first of July, and may be found until September. The beetles feed upon the leaves and deposit their eggs under the bark of the vines. These eggs hatch out minute worms of a white color, with brownish heads, which drop to the ground and make their way to the roots upon which they feed, when full grown constructing earthen cells in which the larger portion pass the winter. The full grown beetle leaves the ground about July 1. They may be destroyed by bisulphide of carbon, which should be used in November, when they are preying upon the roots, or killed with arsenial poisons when on the leaves or vines. Stirring of the soil frequently during July, and keeping a good covering of earth over the roots during July, will be of benefit. The bisulphide of carbon is used on the roots by making holes in the ground with a strong stick or iron bar about a foot away from the trunk of the vine. Make the holes in triangular form. Put 2 ozs. of the liquid in each hole. It will kill the vine if placed too closely to the trunk. To spray the vine and leaves, use 1 lb. of London purple with 6 lbs. of lime to 100 gallons of water.

Distemper in Dogs.

R. S. C., Oklahoma: Distemper in dogs is a specific blood poison, the cause being obscure. It may be communicated from one dog to another. Nearly all dogs have to pass through a period of distemper. It starts with loss of appetite and redness of the eyes, nose hot and urine high colored, pulse is quick. After about two days time the eyes and nose discharge water, a cough begins and there is much fever. Sometimes there is diarrhoea and at others there is constipation. The dog should be placed in a warm place, and given all the clean, pure water he will drink, and feed on beef tea and bread and milk. An old remedy, and a good one, when the dog is not troubled with diarrhoea is to give gunpowder ¼ part, sulphur ¼ part and melted lard ½ part. Mix well and give a ball about the size of a hulled walnut twice a day for two days. The powder acts upon the kidneys, the sulphur upon the blood, and the lard acts as a gentle cathartic. Much depends upon careful nursing. The Encyclopedia of Live Stock gives as a remedy in the early stages, before complications have risen, tincture of aconite root in one drop doses in a teaspoonful of water every half hour, and three grains of quinine morning, noon and night. If the lungs are affected, apply a mustard paste to the side, well rubbed in, putting on a blanket to confine the fumes. If after an hour the dog is still very bad, wash the mustard off with warm water and make a fresh application. Give the following: 30 drops tincture of aconite root, ½ oz. sweet spirits of nitre; ½ oz. tincture of gentian, 2 ozs. syrup of tolu, water to make 4 ozs. Mix. If the bowels are affected give 2 drachms prepared chalk, 1 drachm aromatic confection, ½oz. tincture of opium, 2 drachms gum arabic, water to make 8 ozs. Mix. Give one or two tablespoonfuls according to the size of the dog three or four times a day; or, if very bad, after every loose evacuation.

Mare Has Sore Mouth—Lame Hogs.

C., Nebraska: The system of your mare is not in proper condition. Give her 16 ozs. of raw linseed oil, and afterward 1 oz. pulverized saltpetre in drinking water, once a day for three days. Feed no corn or corn folder for at least two weeks. Give bran mashes three times a week for three or four weeks, unless the bowels work too freely. The mare should not have a bit in her mouth for two weeks. Examine her mouth carefully and remove all particles of hay, corn or oats that may have accumulated in any part. Sprinkle the sores with burnt alum 2 parts, common salt 1 part. If there is proud flesh touch it lightly every day with lunar caustic. Do not go over much of a surface with this at one time. Regarding the staggers and lameness of the hogs of which you speak, they have probably been overfed, and are plethoric. This causes congestion of the brain. At times a hog will soon die when attacked. Cold water should be at once poured on the head of the hog, from a height of ten feet, if possible. Then inject the following to open the bowels: Sulphate of magnesia, 4 ozs.; oil of turpentine, 2 drachms; soapsuds ½ pint. Mix. Lameness of the back is frequently seen in well bred hogs, or there may be a complete break down of the hind parts of the animals. A remedy is to give the hogs in bran slops 1 oz. Rochelle salts once a day for two days, if the hog is in weight 100 pounds or over. Rub a tablespoonful of turpentine on the small of the back. If the hind legs are stiff rub in over the hock a tablespoonful of turpentine and wrap with flannel. The animal must be kept in a comfortable, dry place, with plenty of fresh bedding every day. If you are feeding corn it will be well for you to change to some other feed for a week or so. Corn is exciting, and if not fully dry is not good as a steady feed. If you have pumpkins, cut some fine and sprinkle bran liberally over them. For a change every three or four days, this is good. In case where fat pigs or hogs slip and sprain their backs, they seldom recover You must be careful not to feed too much corn that is not matured.

Received.

James H. Gregory & Son's Catalogue of Home Grown Seeds, Marblehead, Mass, 1897. Free to all. Catalogue embraces 74 pages.

For Market Gardeners and Florists Burpee's Prices for 1897. W. Atlee Burpee & Co., Philadelphia, Pa. Fifty pages.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Horse Talk.

Give the horse less heavy feed and more wheat bran. This feed costs less and the horses will do better.

Give the colts plenty of wheat bran, and let them have a run in a paddock every day, and they will never have unsound legs unless by accident.

Blemishes will not develop from weakness if properly fed and cared for.

Weak food makes weak and unsound joints. No one can afford to raise a colt in that way.

The market has never been dead for a really good horse.

We are already feeling the scarcity of well-bred young horses. Before the colts of 1896 are ready for market there will be a great demand unsupplied. The common plugs and nudges will never be worth any more than they are now. They can never be sold for what it costs to raise them.

Nursing goes a long way and so many men disregard it.—Farm Journal.

Spring Planting.

One of the most serious objections to spring planting is that if the trees are to come from the nursery they will make the planting hole. This may be obviated by securing the trees in the fall and heeling them in. Then they are at hand ready for planting when wanted. The ground can be plowed, manured and staked out during the winter, and this will be another help in getting the planting done early. So far as is possible the planting should be done as early as the condition of the soil will admit. While early spring planting is advisable, there is no advantage in attempting to set out trees unless the soil is in a good condition, as one item in securing a good growth is to have the work of planting properly done. The advantage in early planting is the longer time for growth before hot, dry weather sets in, and for the soil to get well settled around the roots.

A safe rule is to set as deep as the trees grew in the nursery, to have the holes large enough to admit all of the roots without bending or twisting. The dead and injured roots should all be cut off, always making a smooth, slanting cut; and then the top should always be cut back in proportion to the roots. The soil should be thoroughly fined, and if manure is to be applied it should be well rotted and thoroughly incorporated with the soil.

It is a very good plan to scatter the manure in the bottom of the hole or place prepared for the tree and then set the tree in it. Fill in the soil carefully around the roots, as it is an important item to have the roots and soil come in close contact, and in many cases it will pay after the roots are covered to tramp the soil down well. Care must always be taken to keep the roots moist while transplanting, as the drying of the roots and the failure to have the roots and soil come in close contact cause more loss than any other cause.—Farmers' Voice.

O.I.C. Swine On Time To First Applicant In Each Locality L. B. Silver & Co. Cleveland O.

Love is the keystone of a woman's life. Her fondest hopes rest upon this tender emotion; her highest pride is in her capacity to awaken the love which makes a happy wife; her noblest ambition is to become a loved and loving mother.

Any weakness or disease which incapacitates her to fulfill the exalted function of motherhood is the saddest blight which can come upon a woman's life.

But there is no reason in nature why any hindrances or derangements of this kind should continue to exist. Ninety-nine times in a hundred they are completely overcome in a perfectly natural and scientific way by the use of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription, which gives healthy power and capacity to the special organs; reinforces the nerve-centres and makes natural, healthy motherhood possible, safe and comparatively easy.

It makes the coming of baby almost free from pain; gives strength and cheerfulness to the mother, and constitutional vigor to the child. It is the only medicine in the world devised for this one purpose by an educated physician, a skilled and experienced specialist in this particular field of practice.

"I cannot say enough in praise of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription, as it has done me a world of good, and has undoubtedly saved my life," writes Mrs. Florence Hunter, of Corley, Logan Co., Ark. "I miscarried four times; could get no medicine to do me any good. I concluded to try the 'Favorite Prescription' and after taking several bottles of it I made my husband a present of a fine girl. I think it is the best medicine in the world."

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets. One is a laxative, two a mild cathartic

How to Fumigate a House.

If a hen house is fumigated with sulphur properly, this is the surest method of killing lice, as well as all kinds of germs, such as cholera and roup.

In order to make sure that nothing can live, while the sulphur is burning the house must be made as tight as possible. This is best done by pasting strips of wrapping paper along the casement of the windows, around the sides and on any other cracks that can be found. If the joist does not fit closely, fill in the space with pieces of twisted newspapers. All this could be done with profit for the sake of the warmth gained, even if you do not wish to fumigate. Be sure the ventilators are securely closed, and that the door you leave by fits snugly.

For a hen house, large enough for a hundred hens, five pounds of common stick sulphur is sufficient. Break this up in pieces of about an inch square, put it into two iron or tin vessels that do not leak. Place these on the floor of the hen house, one at each end, pour over the sulphur somewhat less than a pint of alcohol—wood alcohol is much cheaper than the pure alcohol and just as good for this purpose. Quickly touch a match to this before the alcohol has time to evaporate; close the door and leave the lice to their fate.

In a short time the air should be so thick that when looking through the window you cannot see over two feet. Leave the hen house shut up for a couple of hours; then open the doors and ventilate, and in an hour the atmosphere will be perfectly livable.

Using alcohol and sulphur is much cheaper and better than buying sulphur candles, which cost a ridiculous sum and burn so slowly that they are little better than useless.—Cor. Country Gentleman.

Farming.

In seeding corn land let the shocks be of moderate size, tied well at the top. Sow well up to the shock row, and bill over the shocks by means of a pole thrust through them. This row will then be ready for the drill, and the corn can be removed before it has done any great damage to the growing wheat.

One advantage of keeping accounts with the different kinds of crops and stock kept upon the farm is that we can know to a certainty just what is being done, and when there is a failure after a fair trial a change to something else should certainly be made. It is safe to follow up what is paying.

With diversity in crops and stock there is better opportunity for profit, and a lessened risk of loss is possible. Under such a plan a better opportunity is offered of having something to sell every little while during the year, instead of only once or twice; but this will not always hold as an argument against specialty farming.

The farmer should make it part of his yearly study to know where to ship his produce. He should have the shortest cut to the consumer. Neither ever let him spoil that market by shipping inferior stuff.

An onion fed to a growing fowl will in 10 days' time affect the flavor of the meat. It is unreasonable to suppose that the filthy barnyard pool, from which many a goodly flock is obliged to drink will affect it any the less. The quality of the food will make the quality of the meat. Even be cautious to give clean food upon clean floors and in clean vessels.

Green manure and that from the barnyard may not always supply our fields with all they need. Sometimes we must awaken to the fact that they need mineral fertilizers, perhaps but lime, to release fertility.

There is much to consider when comparing our prices with those of a generation ago. Production was never so cheap as to-day, for machinery enables one man to do the labor of many.

Our stock and our hens will pay more than the market price for all the wheat we can feed them. It seems that through them must come the revolution in prices. We thus have a choice of "middlemen."—Wisconsin Agriculture.

Mutton Chops.

Cold rains give sheep snuffles, catarrh and consumption. Never leave them out in a cold rain.

Do not keep the old sheep later than this month. They should all be turned into mutton for it never pays to winter an old sheep.

Give each sheep a gill of grain. It will pay in the wool to say nothing about the stronger and larger lamb.

It never pays to let sheep run down and get thin just before they go into winter quarters.

Arrange for pure fresh water for the sheep and also a yard for them to go out in when the weather is fair.

Sheep that are being fed on rape now will be benefited by having a little dry fodder of some kind before they are turned on the rape. Keep them in the yard until a part at least of the dew is off the green foliage.—Farm Journal.

Pigeons as Smugglers.

Recently an exhausted pigeon fell into the hands of the New York police. It was found to have a quantity of diamonds attached to its body, and had evidently been set free from the deck of an ocean steamer by someone who wished to bring the diamonds into the United States without payment of duties. Several diamonds were tied under the bird's tail, a few others were around its neck, and two more were made fast to each of its legs.

The weight of so many diamonds was beyond its strength, and it was unable to continue its homeward flight. The bird is believed to be the property of a regular organized band of smugglers, who take the birds to Europe and when on the homeward voyage, and near land, tie to them diamonds purchased abroad, and set them free.

Kalamazoo, Mich., is famous for celery. See Thos. Slater's offer on page 3.

Talmage's Sermon.

STORMING THE HEIGHTS.

The Arbitration Treaty is Endorsed by Talmage.

Washington, Jan. 18.—In the President's church, and before an audience in which were prominent Senators and members of the house of representatives and people of all nationalities, this discourse of sublime encouragement was delivered. Dr. Talmage's subject was "Storming the Heights," and his text Zechariah iv. 7: "Who art thou, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel thou shalt become a plain."

Zerubbabel! Who owned that difficult name, in which three times the letter "b" occurs, disposing most people to stammer in the pronunciation? Zerubbabel was the splendid man called to rebuild the destroyed temple at Jerusalem. Stone for the building had been quarried, and the trowel had rung at the laying of the corner-stone, and all went well, when the Cuthaens offered to help in the work. They were a bad lot of people, and Zerubbabel declined their help, and then the trouble began. The Cuthaens prejudiced the secretary of the treasury against Zerubbabel, so that the wages of the carpenters and masons could not be paid, and the heavy cedar timbers which had been dragged from Mount Lebanon to the Mediterranean and floated in rafts from Beyrout to Joppa, and were to be drawn by ox team from Joppa to Jerusalem, had halted, and as a result of the work of those jealous Cuthaeans for sixteen years the building of the temple was stopped. But after sixteen years Zerubbabel, the mighty sould, got a new call from God to go ahead with the temple building, and the angel of the Lord in substance said: "They have piled up obstacles in the way of Zerubbabel until they have become as a mountain, height over height, crag above crag, but it shall be thundered down and made flat and smooth as the floor of a house. Who art thou, O great mountain? before Zerubbabel thou shall become a plain."

Well, the Cuthaeans are not all dead yet. They are busy in every neighborhood and every city and every nation of every age, heaping obstacles in the way of the cause of God. They have piled up hindrances above hindrances until they have become a hill, and the hill has become a mountain, and the mountain has become an Alp, and there it stands, right in the way of all movements for the world's salvation. Some people are so discouraged about the height and breadth of this mountain in front of them that they have done nothing for sixteen years, and many of those who are at work trying to do something toward removing the mountain toil in such a way that I can see they have not much faith that the mountain of hindrances will ever be removed. They feel they must do their duty, but they feel all the time—I can hear it in their prayers and exhortations—that they are striking their pickaxes and shovels into the side of the Rocky Mountains. If the good Lord will help me while I preach I will give you the names of some of the high mountains which are really in the way, and then show you that those mountains are to be prostrated, torn down, ground up, leveled, put out of sight forever. "Who art thou, O great mountain? before Zerubbabel thou shalt become a plain."

First, there is the mountain of prejudice, as long as a range of the Pyrenees. Prejudice against the Bible as a dull book, an inconsistent book, a cruel book, an unclean book, and in every way an unfit book. The most of them have never read it. They think the strata of the rocks contradict the account in Genesis. The poor souls do not know that the Mosaic account agrees exactly with the geological account. No violin or flute ever were in better accord. By crowbar and pickaxe and shovel and blasting powder the geologist goes down in the earth, and says: "The first thing created in the furnishing of the earth was the plants." Moses says, "Ay, I told you that in the Book of Genesis: 'The earth brought forth grass and herbs, yielding seed after its kind, and the tree yielding fruit.'" The geologist goes on digging in the earth, and says: "The next thing in the furnishing of the earth was the making of the sea."

Moses says: "Ay! I told you that was next in the book of Genesis: 'God said, Let the water bring forth abundantly the moving creatures that have life; and God created great whales.'" The geologist goes on digging, and says: "The next thing in the furnishing of the earth was the creation of the cattle and the reptiles and the beasts of the field." "Ay!" says Moses, "I told you that was next in the first chapter of Genesis: 'And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind.'" The geologist goes on digging in the earth, and says, "The next creature was the human family." "Ay!" says Moses, "I told you that was next in the book of Genesis: 'So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.'" Those prejudiced against the Bible do not know that the explorations in Egypt and Palestine and Syria are confirming the Scriptures—the same facts written on monuments and on the walls of exhumed cities as written in the Bible.

The city of Pithom has been unburied and its bricks are found to have been made without straw, exactly corresponding with the Bible story of the persecuted Hebrews. On a terra cotta cylinder recently brought up from thousands of years of burial, the capture of Babylon is told. On a Babylonian gem recently found are the figures of a tree, a man, a woman and a serpent, and the hands of the man and woman are stretched up toward the tree as if to pluck the fruit. Thus the Bible story of the fall is confirmed.

In a museum at Constantinople you see a piece of the wall that once in the ancient Temple of Jerusalem separated the court of the Gentiles and the court of the Israelites, to which Paul refers when he says of Christ. "He is our peace, who hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us." On tablets recently discovered have been found the names of prominent men of the Bible, spelled a little different, according to the demands of ancient language. "Adamu" for Adam, "Abramn" for Abraham, "Ablu" for Abel, and so on. Twenty-two feet under ground has been found a seal inscribed with the words "Haggai, son of Shebaniah," thousands of years ago cut, showing that the prophet Haggai who wrote a part of the Bible, was not a myth. The royal engineers have found, eighty feet below the surface of the ground at Jerusalem, Phoenician pottery and hewn stones with inscriptions, showing that they were furnished by Hiram, King of Tyre, just as the Bible says they were.

The great names of Bible history, that many suppose are the names of imaginary beings, are found cut into imperishable stones which have within a few years been rolled up from their entombment of ages, such as Sennacherib and Tiglath Pileser. On the edge of a bronzed step and on burned brick has been found the name of Nebuchadrezzer. Henry Rawlinson and Oppert and Hincks, and Palestine exploration societies, and Assyriologists, and Egyptologists, have rolled another Bible up from the depths of the earth, and lo! it corresponds exactly with our Bible, the rock Bible just like the printed Bible, inscriptions on cylinders and brick work cut thirty-eight hundred years before Christ testifying to the truth of what we read eighteen hundred and ninety-seven years after Christ. The story of the Tower of Babel has been confirmed by the fact that recently at Babel an oblong pile of brick one hundred and ten feet high evidences the remains of a fallen tower. In the inspired book of Ezra we read of the great and noble Asnapper, a name that meant nothing especial, until recently, in pried-up Egyptian sculpture, we have the story there told of him as a great hunter as well as a great warrior. What I say now is news to those prejudiced against the Bible. They are so far behind the times that they know not that the old book is being proved true by the prying eye of the antiquarian and the ringing hammer of the archaeologist and the plunging crowbar of the geologist. No more is infidelity characterized by its blasphemy than by its ignorance, but oh! what a high mountain of prejudice against the Bible, against Christianity, against churches, against all evangelizing enterprises—a mountain that casts a long, black shadow over this continent and over all continents. Geographers tell us that Mount Everest is the highest mountain in the world. Oh, no! The mountain of prejudice against Christianity is higher than the highest crags that dare the lightnings of heaven. Before our Zerubbabel can it ever become a plain?

Another mountain of hindrance is that of positive and outspoken immorals. There is the Mountain of Inebriacy. It is piled high with kegs and demijohns and decanters and hogsheads, on which sit the victims of that traffic whose one business is to rob earth and heaven of the most generous and large-hearted and splendid of the human race. If their business was to take out the mean and stingy and contemptible and useless, we would not say much against the work, for there are tens of thousands of men and women who are a nuisance to the world, and their obliteration from human society would be an advantage to all that is good.

The removal of these moral deficits would not arouse in us much of a protest. But insobriety takes the best. The Mountain of Inebriacy stands in the way of the kingdom of God, and hundreds of thousands of men, but for that hindrance, would step right into the ranks of the Lord's host and march heavenward, each one taking a regiment with him. The Mountain of Inebriacy is not an ordinary mountain, but it is armed. It is a line of fortresses continually blazing away its destructive forces upon all our neighborhoods, towns, and cities, their volleys of death poured down upon the homes and churches. Under this power more than one hundred thousand men and women are in this country every year imprisoned, and an army of 600,000 drunkards almost shake the earth with their staggering tread. It causes in this country 300 murders and 400 suicides a year. This Mountain of Inebriacy has not only assaulted the land, but bombarded the shipping of the sea, and some of the most appalling shipwrecks on Atlantic and Pacific coast have been the result. What sank the steamer Rothsay Castle, on the way from Liverpool to Dublin, destroying 100 human lives? A drunken sea captain. What blew up the Ben Sherrod on the Mississippi and sent 150 to horrible death? A drunken crew. What drove on the breakers a steamer making its way from New York to Charleston, and sent whole families, on the way home from summer watering places, to the merciless depths of the sea? A drunken sea captain.

Gather up from the depths of the rivers, and lakes, and oceans, the bones of those shipwrecked by intoxoicated captains and crews, and you could build out of them a temple of horrors, all the pillars and altars and floors and ceilings fashioned of human skulls. Is it possible that such a Mountain of Inebriacy can ever be made a plain?

Yonder also is the Mountain of Crime, with its strata of fraud, and malpractice, and burglary, and piracy, and embezzlement, and libertinism, and theft, all its heights manned with pickpockets, the thimble-riggers, the plunderers, the marauders, the pillagers, the corsairs, the wreckers, the bandits, the tricksters, the forgers, the thugs, the garroters, the fire fiends, the dynamiters, the shoplifters, the kleptomaniacs, the pyromaniacs, the dipsomaniacs, the smugglers, the kidnappers, the Jack Sheppards, the Robert Macaires, and the Macbeths of villainy. The crimes of the world! Am I not right in calling them, when piled together, a mountain?

But we cannot bring ourselves to appreciate great heights except by comparison. You think of Mount Washington as high, especially those of you who ascended as of old, on muleback, or more recently by rail train, to the Tip-Top House. Oh, no! That is not high! for it is only about six thousand feet, whereas, rising on this Western hemisphere are Chimborazo, twenty-one thousand feet high and Mount Sahama, twenty-three thousand feet high, and Mount Sarota, twenty-four thousand eight hundred feet high. But that is not the highest mountain on the Western hemisphere. The highest mountain is the Mountain of Crime, and is it possible that this mountain, before our Zerubbabel, can ever be made a plain?

There is also the Mountaoin of War, the most volcanic of all mountains—the Vesuvius, which, not content, like the Vesuvius of Italy, with whelming two cities, Herculaneum and Pompeii, has covered with its fiery scoria thousand of cities and would like to whelm all the cities of both hemispheres. Give this mountain full utterance, and it would cover Washington and New York and London as easily as a householder, with his shovel at 10 o'clock at night, banks a great fire with ashes. This mountain is a pile of fortresses, barricades, and armories, the world's artillery heaped, wheels above wheels, columbiads above columbiads, seventy-four pounders above seventy-four pounders, wrecked nations above wrecked nations.

This Mountain of War is not only loaded to cannonade the earth, but it is also a cemetery, holding the corpses of 30,000,000 slain in the wars of Alexander and Cyprus, 60,000,000 slain in Roman wars; 180,000,000 slain in war with Turks and Saracens, and holding about 85 billion corpses, not millions, but billions, which was the estimate made by Edmund Burke more than a hundred years ago of those who had been destroyed by war, so that you would have to add many more millions now. Twenty years ago a careful author estimated that about 14 times the then population of the world had gone down in battle or in hospital after battle. Ah! This Mountain of War is not like an ordinary mountain. It is like Kilauea, one of the Sandwich Islands, which holds the greatest volcano in all the earth, and concerning which I wrote from the Sandwich Islands a few years ago.

"What a hissing, bellowing, tumbling, soaring force is Kilauea! Lake of unquenchable fire; convolutions and paroxysms of flame; elements of nature in torture; torridity and luridity; congregation of dreads; molten horrors; sulphurous abysms; swirling mystery of all time; infinite of turbulence; chimney of perdition; wallowing terrors; 15 acres of threats; glooms insufferable and Dantesque; cauldron stirred by the champion witch of Pandemonium; camp-fire of the armies of Diabolus; wrath of the mountains in full bloom; shimmering incandescence; pyrotechnics of the planet; furnace blast of the ages; Kilauea!" But, my friends, mightier, vaster, hotter, more raging is the volcanic Mountain of War. It has been blazing for hundreds of years, and it will keep on blazing until, until—but I dare not hazard a prophecy. Can it be that its fires will ever be put out? Can it be that its roar will ever be silenced? Can it be that before our Zerubbabel that blazing mountain will ever become a plain?

The mightiest, grandest movement for driving brutal war out of the earth dates from Jan. 11. 1897. The men who on either side of the sea did most to effect that plan of arbitration, have made themselves immortal. The evening of the present administration of the United States government has been honored with the gladdest event of eighteen centuries. All civilized nations will copy the sublime example. I implore the illustrious Senate of the United States to allow nothing to interfere with a vote of ratification, that the bells of all christendom may ring out: "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men."

Senators, many of you my personal friends, let me say that this is the opportunity of your lives. By emphatic and enthusiastic vote rise to the splendor of the occasion and win favor of all the good on earth and all of the mighty in heaven. Let the aye, aye of our American Senate resound through all the capitols of Europe and make all the arsenals and armories of the round world hear that there shall be no more murder among nations.

There is also the long range of mountain, longer than Appalachain range, longer than Caucasian range, longer than Sierra Nevada range—the piled up opposition of bad literature, bad homes, bad institutions, bad religions: Paganism, Hindooism, Buddhism, Mohammedanism, and buttressed and enthroned Godlessness, devoted to ambition and lust and hydra-headed, argus-eyed abomination, as it stands with lifted fists and mocking lips, challenging Jehovah upon the throne of the universe to strike if he dare. Oh, it is a great mountain, as my text declares. There is no use denying it. The most authentic statistics declare it. The signs of the times prove it. All Christian workers realize it. It is a mountain. "The mountain can never be brought down," says worldly speculation. "The mountain can never be made a plain," says small faith in the churches. Well, let us see. Let us look about for the implements we can lay our hands on. Let us count the number on our sides who are willing to dig with a shovel, or bore a tunnel, or blast a rock. Let us see if there is any foreign help that will come in to reinforce us. I do not want to make myself absurd by attempting an impossibility. If it is only a spade at the foot of Mount Blanc; if it is only one arm, capable of lifting but a few pounds, against a mountain that weighs a hundred million tons, let us quit before we make ourselves the travesty and caricature of the universe. If we are to undertake this job, first of all we must have a competent engineer, one who knows all about excavations, about embankments, about tunnels, about mountains. I know engineers who have carved up mountains, cut down mountains, removed mountains. I will do nothing unless I know who is to be our engineer. Zerubbabel led at the rebuilding of the ancient temple, and Matthew Henry, the greatest of commentators, declares that our Zerubbabel is the Lord Jesus Christ. The Zerubbabel of my text was only a type of the glorious and omnipotent Jesus, and as I look up into the face of this divine engineer and see it glow with all the splendors of the Godhead, and see that in his arm is the almightiness that flung out all the worlds that glitter in the midnight heavens, and that to lift the Himalayas would cost him no more effort than for me to lift an ounce, my courage begins to rally, and my faith begins to mount, and my enthusiasm is all aflame, and the words of my text this moment just fit my lips and express the triumph of my soul, and I cry out, "Who art thou, O great mountain? before Zerubbabel thou shalt become a plain."

My experiences with the shovel are that you can not do much by one push of that implement, and that after you have been digging with it an hour what you have accomplished seems very little; but just go along by the place where they are building a railroad through a mountain and see what a great work a thousand shovels can do, and know that while there are a thousand shovels at work on this side of the mountain there are a thousand shovels busy on the other side, and all I have to do is to manage my own particular shovel. It cheers me to think that against this old mountain of sin there are hundreds and millions of shovels this moment busy, and we are all at work under the one engineer who came down from his throne in heaven to oversee and help the removal of that mountain, and who has contracted to have it done. I have seen the contract, and he is well paid for it.

The compensation promised by the throne of heaven is, "I will give thee the heathen for thine inheritance and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession." The reason so many of us are idle is that we want a bigger shovel or would like to manage some great hydraulic engine. No, brother, stick to your shovel. Dig away in your Sabbath classes. Dig away in your missions. Dig away in your homes. Dig away in your pulpits. Do the work next to you. Do not spend too much time looking at the great size of the mountains or at the way others use their shovels. All that you can accomplish toward the removing of that mountain will be with your own particular shovel. Remember little David, with Saul's helmet on him, dropping clear down over his ears, even unto his shoulders. But when he got in his hand the boy's sling, how well he used it! If you do not understand Greek, do not attempt to tell the people what the text is in the original. If you do not understand Latin, attempt no drafts upon Latinity. You who want to help in the removal of the mountain, hold on to your shovel. Much time has been lost by the fact that many of the sharpest shovels, instead of being used for the removal of the mountain, have been used in fighting each other.

The great Presbyterian church was mightily hindered by the fight that for years went on between old school shovels and new school shovels, and it was not until the meeting of the general assembly at Pittsburg, 30 or 40 years ago, that many good men made up their minds that shovels are not made to fight with, but to dig with. Many of the old theologians went around with bandaged foreheads which had not been struck by the swords in the battle for God, but by the shovels of ecclesiastical embroglio. They had a special admiration for that Psalm of David which said, "Blessed be the Lord which teacheth my hands to war, and my fingers to fight."

So also the Methodist church had a battle of shovels over the question of lay delegation, and womanly representation. I am glad to say that most of the ecclesiastical pugilists, in all denominations, are dead, and that they had big funerals. But there are so many shovels now rightly engaged that no statistics can count them. I tell you the mountain is coming down. It is coming down rapidly It will all come down. There are those who hear or read these words who will gaze upon its complete prostration; for what is the use of my keeping back any longer the full statement of the fact, which I have somewhat delayed through lawful sermonic strategy, the fact that the Lord God Almighty, in the full play of his omnipotence, will accomplish this supernal work.

If God can build a mountain, I guess he can remove a mountain. After God has given full opportunity for the shovels, he will come in with his thunderbolts. We have amplified the idea of the Lamb of God. I tell you now of the lion. Here is a thought that I have never seen projected, and yet it is the most cheering of all considerations and plainly Scriptural, the thought that as at the opening of the gospel dispensation, in the Christly, and Johanian, and Pauline days, the machinery of the natural world was brought into service, the shadow of eclipses and the agitation of earthquakes, tempests put to sleep under the voice of divine lullaby, iron bolts of prisons shoved back by invisible muscle, kindling of flame on heads of worshippers, by instantaneous pharmacy blasted vision given full eyesight, and the dead returned from the eternal world, mingling amid earthly scenes. So it will be again. As I read my Bible, these supernaturals are to return. Again the eclipses, as at the destruction of Jerusalem, will put red wing under the moon and black wing under the sun, and the mountain will shake with ague of excitement, and hospital cots be emptied as their patients bound into sudden health, and the gospel of mercy be emphasized by most tremendous spectacles. "And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood * * * and every mountain and island were moved out of their places." There you have it. The shovels now digging away at the mountains to be reinforced by the thunderbolts. The gospel is only partially successful because we preach it amid all placidities, the hearers having heard the invitation a thousand times before, and expect to hear it a thousand times more, but in coming times to be preached amid pulverized rocks and [illegible]

I say then the gospel will be universally accepted. There is the programme. First the shovels; then the thunderbolts. Ours the shovels, God's the thunderbolts. The text, which before we uttered with something of trepidation, now we utter in laugh of triumph, "Who art thou, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel thou shalt become a plain."

Sometimes a general begins a battle before he is ready, because the enemy forces it on him. The general says: "The enemy are pushing us, and so I open battle. We are not sufficient to cope with them, but I hope the reserve forces will come up in time." The battle rages, and the general looks through his field glass at the troops, but ever and anon he sweeps his field glass backward and upward toward the hill, to see if the reserve forces are coming. "Hard pushed are we," says the general. "I do wish those reinforcements would come up." After awhile the plumes of the advancing cavalry are seen tossing on the ridge of the hill, and then the flash of swords, and then the long lines of mounted troops, their horses in full gallop, and the general says, "All is well. Hold out, my men, a little longer. Let the sergeants ride along the lines and cheer the men and tell them reinforcements are coming." And now the rumbling of the batteries and gun carriages is distinctly heard, and soon they are in line, and at the first roar of the newly arrived artillery the enemy, a little while before so jubilant, fall back in wild retreat, their way strewn with canteens and knapsacks and ammunition, that the defeated may be unhindered in their flight. That is just the way now. In this great battle against sin and crime and moral death the enemy seem too much for us. More grog-shops than churches. More bad men than good men, and they come up with bravado and the force of great numbers. They have opened battle upon us before we are, in our own strength, ready to meet them, and great are the discouragements. But steady, there! Hold on! Reinforcements are coming. Through the glass of inspiration I look, and see the flash of the sword of "Him who hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, King of Kings and Lord of Lords." All heaven is on our side and is coming to the rescue. I hear the rumbling of the King's artillery, louder than any thunder that ever shook the earth, and with every roll of the ponderous wheels our courage augments, and when these reinforcements from heaven get into line with the forces of God already on earth, all the armies of unrighteousness will see that their hour of doom has come, and will waver and fall back and take flight and nothing be left of them save here and there, strewn by the wayside, an agnostic's pen or a broken decanter or a torn playbill of a debasing amusement or a blasphemous paragraph, or a leper's scale, or a dragon's tooth, to show they ever existed. Let there be cheering all along the lines of Christian workers over the fact that what the shovels fail to do will be accomplished by the thunderbolts. "Who art thou, O great mountain? before Zerubabel thou shalt become a plain."

The mountains look on Marathon,
And Marathon locks on the sea,
* * * * * *
Shrine of the mighty, can it be
That this is all remains of thee!

WOMAN'S POWER.

IT SHAPES THE DESTINIES OF MEN AND NATIONS.

Where Men Are at a Disadvantage, and "Only a Woman Can Understand a Woman's Ills."

Woman's beauty, love and devotion, rule the world. Grand women; strong mentally, morally and physically, whose ambition and magnetic influence urge men to deeds of grandeur and heroism. Such women are all-powerful. Weakly, sickly, ailing women have little ambition; their own troubles occupy their thoughts, and their one object is to get well.

They have no confidence in themselves, and only too often lose faith in their physicians.

All irregularities, whites, bearing-down pains, nervousness, headache, backache, "blues," distaste for society, sounds in ears, palpitation, emaciation, heavy eyes, "all gone" feeling, dread of impending evil, sleeplessness, etc., should at once be removed and vigorous health assured.

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has for twenty years saved women from all this. Hear this woman speak:—

"I wish to publish what Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and Sanative Wash have done for me. I had falling of the womb and leucorrhœa, and they have cured me of both. I am a well woman. I suffered dreadfully with such dragging pains in the lower part of the back and extending around the body, irritation of the bladder, pain when walking and painful menstruation; I weakened terribly. I had been treated by three doctors without much help, and it only took five bottles of your Compound and three packages of Sanative Wash to cure me. I can recommend them to all women suffering with complaints like these."—MRS. VANNATTA, 3827 N. Broad St., Philadelphia, Pa.

FOR THE MATINEE GIRL.

A Clever Outfit in Green Velvet, With Toque of Wonderful Frosted Leaves.

The most conspicuous thing about the matinee girl is her opera glass bag, which is made of every conceivable material ,the latest being a little fox set upon a bag of black silk.

A girl carrying a fox-head bag and wearing a toque all of green frosted leaves disappeared into a box at the matinee, to reappear a minute later with cloak thrown off, showing a lovely gown of brocaded wool, with figures in dull red upon a deep green background.

THE NEWEST MATINEE GIRL.

The cape which she laid aside was dark green velvet, with a yoke of a smooth gray feathery material. This was put on in a deep double curve, both front and back, and finished at the neck with an immense ruching of black ribbon. Upon the shoulders were similar ruchings of ribbon. The ribbon was two-faced, the reversed side being of pale green.

"NOW, KISS ME."

Title of a Sentimental Song Causes Consternation.

A funny incident occurred in a neighboring city, says an exchange, a few days since, and one too good to be lost. One of our celebrated composers has written a pretty song entitled "Kiss Me." A very pretty, blushing maid, having heard of the song, and thinking she would get it, with some others, stepped into a music store to make a purchase. One of the clerks, a modest young man, stepped up to wait on her. The young lady threw back her veil, saying:

"I want 'Rock Me to Sleep.'"

The clerk got the song and put it before her.

"Now," said the young lady, "I want 'The Wandering Refugee.'"

"Yes, ma'am," said the clerk, bowing, and in a few minutes he produced the "Refugee."

"Now, 'Kiss Me,'" said the young lady, of course meaning the song above mentioned.

The poor clerk's eyes popped fire almost, as he looked at the young lady in utter astonishment, for he was not aware that a song by that name had been published.

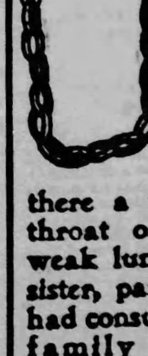
"Wh—what did you say, Miss?"

"'Kiss Me,'" said she.

"I can't do it; I never kissed a young lady in my life," said the clerk.

And about that time a veil dropped, a young lady left in a hurry, clerk felt sick, and dealer lost the sale of his music.

Broken Chain



The family circle is never so happy after the chain is broken and a link taken. Some family chains are strong, others weak. Have you a good family history? Or is there a tendency to coughs, throat or bronchial troubles, weak lungs? Has a brother, sister, parent or near relative had consumption? Then your family chain is weak. Strengthen it. Take SCOTT'S EMULSION of Cod-liver Oil with Hypophosphites. It makes rich blood, gives strength and vigor to weak lungs and run-down constitutions. With its aid the system throws off acute coughs and colds. It prevents the chain from breaking. Shall we send you a book about this, free?

For sale by all druggists at 50c. and $1.00.
SCOTT & BOWNE, New York.

CREEDS OF PRESIDENTS.

McKinley the Third President—Eight Have Been Episcopalians.

Foundry church, Washington, which was described to the readers of the Press not long ago, will be the church which Mr McKinley will attend after his inauguration. He will be the third Methodist among the Presidents of the United States. There have been, besides, eight Protestant Episcopalians, six Presbyterians, two Unitarians, one Christian and one Free Thinker.

Washington used to go to one or another of the Episcopal churches in Philadelphia. John Adams was the first President at Washington. He was a Unitarian, and as there was not a church of his denomination in the capital in those days, he did not identify himself with any place of worship.

Thomas Jefferson believed with Thos. Paine that man should be guided by his own reason rather than by the reason of others: therefore he didn't go to church. Madison went to St. John's church. Monroe evolved some of his famous doctrine while sitting in the same pew Madison had used. In 1819 St. John's set apart pew No. 1 for the especial use of the President of the United States.

John Quincy Adams, like his father, the shoemaker, was a Unitarian. He, with others, founded the Unitarian church, whose congregation met in the building now used by the police court. Jackson went to the Presbyterian church on Four-and-a-half street, which was built in his term of office, and to St. John's church. Van Buren went to St. John's. William Henry Harrison, whose grandson was also President, went to the F Street Presbyterian church now Willard Hall. The F street congregation has lost its identity by joining the New York Avenue church.

Tyler went to St. John's Episcopal church: Polk to the F Street and to the Four-and-a-half Street Presbyterian churches. Buchanan went to St. John's. The tall, gaunt figure of President Lincoln was seen on Sundays in a pew of the New York Avenue church. Johnson attended St. John's. Grant made the fame and wealth of the Metropolitan Methodist Episcopal church by his regular attendance there.

Hayes went to the Foundry church. Mrs. Hayes was active in all church affairs. Her church life in Washington was as plain and simple as it was in her home in Ohio.

Garfield attended the Vermont Avenue Christian church, and preached occasionally from the pulpit. Arthur went to St. John's. Cleveland has been a regular communicant at the Four-and-a-half Street Presbyterian. President Harrison attended the Presbyterian Church of the Covenant, on Connecticut avenue.—New York Press.

HOW TO FIND OUT.

Fill a bottle or common water glass with urine and let it stand twenty-four hours; a sediment or settling indicates a diseased condition of the kidneys. When urine stains linen it is positive evidence of kidney trouble. Too frequent desire to urinate or pain in the back is also convincing proof that the kidneys and bladder are out of order.

WHAT TO DO.

There is comfort in the knowledge so often expressed, that Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, the great kidney remedy fulfills every wish in relieving pain in the back, kidneys, liver, bladder and every part of the urinary passages. It corrects inabilitty to hold the urine and scalding pain in passing it, or bad effects following use of liquor, wine or beer, and overcomes that unpleasant necessity of being compelled to get up many times during the night to urinate. The mild and the extraordinary effect of Swamp-Root is soon realized. It stands the highest for its wonderful cures of the most distressing cases. If you need a medicine you should have the best. Sold by druggists, price fifty cents and one dollar. For a sample bottle and pamphlet, both sent free by mail, mention The Blade, and send your full postoffice address to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y. The proprietors of this paper guarantee the genuineness of this offer.

SHE BIDED HER TIME.

Told Her About a Wonderful Creek and Got a Pointer.

Perhaps the most popular man connected with the Yellowstone Park Transportation company is Capt. E. C. Culver, of Gardner. In addition to the duties of justice of the peace, he makes a daily trip on the park train and personally interviews every man, boy, woman and child who travels on it. He is a walking encyclopedia of park information. He knows the height of every peak, the altitude of every important location, and can give you Prof. Hayden's theory of the park's geological formation. Besides all this he is a prince of good fellows and has a fund of humor which sometimes carries him away when touching up descriptions and legends of the park.

Some time ago the captain had an experience which was too good to keep, and he gave it away to a friend in town. He was going from the springs to Cinnabar, and there were three very bright young ladies on the coach. One of them asked if it was customary to have so many mosquitoes in so high an altitude. The captain assured her that it was not unusual; that they were increasing year by year; that no mosquitoes were ever known in the park until about eight years ago, a New Jersey schoolma'am had carelessly inclosed some in her trunk and let them out at Mammoth Hot Springs, when, like rabbits in Australia, they became an interesting pest.

All agreed that it was remarkable, but one girl seemed to carry a smile of incredulity. As the conversation continued, Mr. Culver was asked what he considered the most remarkable thing in the park. He said that if beauty and grandeur were to be left out of the count, he thought the most "remarkable thing" was Alum creek, a little stream putting into the river between the falls and the lake. Originally, he said, the distance between the hotels at the lake and the falls was twenty-six miles, but when they commenced to sprinkle the road between the two places with water taken from Alum creek some years ago, they soon found the distance between the hotels shortened by about eight miles. As the hotels were then only about eighteen miles apart and the road still shrinking, the superintendent ordered them to use no more water from Alum creek. And then the captain told another little legend about the creek that was quite well authenticated. Last year, he said, a party went through the park on a camping tour, and a young lady with them came into the park wearing No. 8 shoes. After camping on Alum creek two days and bathing her feet she went home wearing a pair of No. 2 gaiters.

At this point the girl with the incredulous smile said to him:

"Don't you think it would be a good plan to bathe your head in that creek a time or two?"—Livingston Post.

A Natural Conclusion.

"He's the very picture of you, sir!" cried the delighted nurse, dancing the first edition smartly up and down, "a perfect image of you, sir, even to the little scar on his chin—do you notice the little scar on his chin?"

The editor of the Jayville Clarinet laid a finger thoughtfully upon his brow.

"We will consider him, then," he said, in a grave, professional tone, "as a marked copy."—Pittsburg Leader.

Providence.

"I see," said the lady who wishes to wear bloomers, "that another woman has been burned to death by her skirts catching on fire."

"Which simply goes to show," said the husband of the lady who wishes to wear bloomers, "how mysterious are the ways of Providence."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Her Accomplishment.

Two or three young women who are interested in art were discussing the other.

"Did you ever see anything like the color of her cheeks?"

"And yet some men admire them. One said to me the other evening that they looked just like peaches."

"The idea! What did you answer?"

"I said that he was probably right; that [illegible]

SUBSTITUTION

the FRAUD of the day.

See you get Carter's.

Ask for Carter's.

Insist and demand

Carter's Little Liver Pills

The only perfect Liver Pill.

Take no other,

Even if

Solicited to do so.

Beware of imitations

of Same Color Wrapper.

RED.

The Sunday School.

The Boldness of Peter and John.

Lesson 5. January 31. 1897.

Golden Text: There is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.—Acts 4:12.

(Acts 4:1-4. Memory verses: 10-12.)

Read also verses 15-31.

1. And as they spake unto the people, the priests, and the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees, came upon them,
2. Being grieved that they taught the people, and preached through Jesus the resurrection from the dead.
3. And they laid hands on them, and put them in hold unto the next day: for it was now eventide.
4. Howbeit many of them which heard the word believed; and the number of the men was about five thousand.
5. And it came to pass on the morrow, that their rulers, and elders, and scribes,
6. And Annas the high priest, and Caiaphas, and John, and Alexander, and as many as were of the kindred of the high priest, were gathered together at Jerusalem.
7. And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, By what power, or by what name, have ye done this?
8. Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders, of Israel,
9. If we this day be examined of the good deed done to the impotent man, by what means he is made whole?
10. Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole.
11. This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner.
12. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.
13. Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.
14. And beholding the man which was healed with them, they could say nothing against it.

Illustrative Applications.

And proclaimed in Jesus the resurrection from the dead (v. 2). Remember that our Lord risked everything upon the fact of his resurrection. He said, in effect, he was an imposter if he did not rise from the dead. This significant silence of his enemies is complete proof that he did rise. He is not, therefore, an impostor. He is what he claimed to be—the Christ of God. You are troubled with doubts, perhaps. Sometimes you ask anxiously, Can these things be so? Here is short, quick proof for you—the resurrection of Jesus. Said De Witte, who was called the universal doubter, "While a darkness which cannot be dissipated rests upon the manner of the resurrection, the fact of it cannot be called in question."

Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them (v. 8). And this was the same Peter who a little time before had cowered in denial of his Master before a serving-maid! Oh, the power of the Holy Ghost? What transformation can he not cause! And he is for us also. He will be in us, too, the inspirer of a calm, convincing Christian bravery.

For neither is there any other name under heaven, that is given among men, wherein we must be saved (v. 12). A friend of mine gave illustration of this great fact at once startling and luminous. It was in the far West, and before the day of railroads in that special section. He was making a journey across the plains in company with others. They had passed through a straggling frontier town. Some miles beyond it they camped for the night. It was in the edge of the winter, but so far the weather had been mild. It was discovered that some needful article had been left in the town. My friend volunteered to go back for it. As he rode along, one of those sudden blizzards struck. The air became deathly cold. The wind blew fearfully. The air was filled and blurred with stinging particles of ice. He lost his way. He began to feel the sleepy numbness betokening death by freezing coming over him. Just then, as he wandered on aimlessly and almost unconsciously, trusting himself to his horse, his stirrup brushed against a thicket of sage-bush. That roused him. He said to himself, if he could but kindle a fire with the thicket, he might be saved. He dismounted, broke off bits of the sage-bush, arranged them as deftly as he could. Then he searched in his pockets for a match. He found he had one only. You can imagine how careful he was with it, how he shielded it from the wind, how anxiously he struck it, how glad he was when he found the flame communicated, and—he was saved. Just then, for him, there was none other match in all the world. His safety hung on that one match. So for us there is but one Saviour. Than his there is none other name given. Accept, and at once, the only Saviour, our Lord Jesus Christ.

And they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus (v. 13). This is the best possible distinction for a Christian. The dust falls on the covers of many an unread Bible. But the Scripture of Christian character and conduct is never lacking readers. The living epistles command attention. To be so with Jesus as to reflect Jesus—this is the meaning of our high calling. "I cannot doubt Christianity when I see him"—I have heard this said of some. There can be no loftier compliment, no nobler goal for Christian endeavor.—Wayland Hoyt, D. D., in S. S. Times.

VARIOUS PEOPLE.

Prince Hohenlohe, the imperial chancellor, will celebrate his golden wedding on February 16.

President Cleveland will be 60 years old two weeks after the expiration of his present term of office.

Miss Helen Gladstone, daughter of the Grand Old Man, has given up the principalship of Newnham College, Oxford, which she has held for fifteen years, in order to remain with her father and mother.

The father of John Oliver Hobbes has bought the famous London review, the "Academy." John Morgan Richards, as his full name reads, is also proprietor of a brand of liver pills, most popular in London.

"You dinna do this for a livelihood?" said a fellow countryman of S. R. Crockett's to him in a melancholy tone, after a lecture. "No," answered Mr. Crockett, "I was thinking that," said the critic, with still deeper solemnity.

Wallace S. Jones, consul general of the United States at Rome, is persona grata at the Italian court. When he was presented to the king and queen the latter asked him about his home in Florida. "We call Florida the Italy of America," said the ready colonel.

The Empress of Germany ordered at Lyons some white silk, with flowers, birds and foliage in relief, at $1.20 a yard, five-sixths of the price being the actual value of the raw silks. She intended to make a dress of it, but it was so beautiful she used it as a curtain.

Alfred C. Harmsworth is called the young Napoleon of English journalism. He is only thirty and has been in business but eight years. He is the proprietor of eighteen journals, four of them dailies, two of which are London dailies, and the rest weeklies. His fortune, which he made himself, is estimated at a number of millions of dollars.

—A life often hangs in the balance, because "a slight cold" has been suffered to turn chronic, when a prompt resort to Dr. D. Jayne's Expectorant would have turned the scale.

If bilious, take Jayne's Painless Sanative [illegible]

FOR THE SCHOOL GIRL.

A Plaid Camel's Hair Trimmed With Astrakhan is Comfortable.

Little girls' gowns this season are very pretty and stylish. Great liberties can be taken with their clothes, as one does not fear making them conspicuous.

A pretty dress for a schoolgirl is of red and black plaid camel's hair serge, with a braided yoke of black and red. The jacket is of the astrakhan and has revers of black velvet.

CAMEL'S HAIR AND ASTRAKHAN.

The skirt is trimmed at the bottom with two rows of black braid. It is cut somewhat in the Mother Hubbard order and sewed to the yoke. It has a box plait in front, on which are sewed six black buttons, three in a row. The Tam hat is of red cloth and has two black quills stuck in one side.

WITH THE WITS.

Mr. Porkchopps (at the concert)—It ain't all singin', I see. Here's something on the programme—"The Sextet from Lucia."

Mrs. Porkchopps—Well, that's singing

Mr. Porkchopps—No, it ain't! A sextet is where six people ride on one bicycle.

"If this turkey were alive I'm afraid he'd be very vain," said the star boarder.

"Why?" inquired the slow payer.

"He's made so much of."

First Manufacturer—I thought you favored a tariff for revenue only.

Second Manufacturer—So I do. If the tariff brought me no revenue, I wouldn't favor it.

"I was telling Miss Cayenne about an accident with which I recently met," remarked Willie Wishington, with a melancholy look in his eye.

"Indeed?"

"Yes. I was getting off an electric car. Didn't realize how fast it was going, and landed on my hands instead of my feet."

"What did Miss Cayenne say about it?"

"Not much. She merely remarked that I had at last succeeded in being original."

BIG GUNS.

Their Effect Upon Nervous Hens—The Farmer's Mournful Tale.

The United States proving ground at Indian Head, on the Potomac below Washington, is in a shallow ravine, half a mile or more wide, and running back for a mile or so from the government wharf. Outside this depression, as the tale is told by veracious graduates of the Naval Academy who have been stationed at the post, there is a semi-circular belt some ten miles broad, where chicken raising is impossible. Within the ravine the ordinary hen of commerce lays eggs, and, if undisturbed in her intentions of domesticity, hatches them with only the usual vicissitudes to which hens and eggs are subject. The sharp, cracking bang of the big guns that are fired at heavy armor plates day after day, does not disturb the process of incubation within the post. But the farmers in the adjacent country, north, east and south tell a unanimously mournful tale of "setting" after "setting" of selected eggs that have gone the malodorous way of eggs that are set upon and not hatched. Not an egg in all the belt, the farmers say, has developed a chicken since the proving ground was established. This failure of the eggs to do their duty is very naturally attributed by the farmers to the firing of the big guns; the rural citizens explain it by saying that the "noise makes the hens nervous." The officers have worked it out to their satisfaction that the fecundity of eggs within the depression and the lack of it in those without are due to the strength of the heavier sound waves that start from the muzzles of the guns. The first impact of these really big waves, they say, is well outside of the projecting hills about the station. The noise of the guns is far louder, they say, out beyond the hills than it is inside the ravine, with the guns right at hand. Outside, where the sound waves bump the earth hardest, they rattle the eggs into unproductivity. As to main facts and as to explanation, as was said above, this tale rests wholly upon the veracity of men trained to truthfulness in a school that is supposed to hold the virtue of George Washington above all others.—New York Sun.

You Can Be Well

When your blood is pure, rich and nourishing for nerves and muscles. The blood is the vital fluid, and when it is poor, thin and impure you must either suffer from some distressing disease or you will easily fall a victim to sudden changes, exposure or overwork. Keep your blood pure with Hood's Sarsaparilla and be well.

HOOD'S PILLS are the best after-dinner pill: assist digestion, cure headache. 25 cents.

The Cheerful Idiot.

"I am confident," said the Cheerful Idiot, "that the breakfast must have been out late last night."

"Why?" kindly asked the shoe clerk boarder.

"The milk is looking blue; the beefsteak feels tough; the coffee is weak; the jelly is shaky; the hash is all cut up, and about the only thing on the bill of fare that seems to have any sand is the stewed prunes, and even they are rather seedy."

Here Mrs. Hashcroft entered the discussion, which became so warm that the butter assumed a rundown appearance.—Indianapolis Journal.

Entitled to Discount.

Mr. Cash—"Don't you think I'm paying you too much for giving my daughter piano lessons? Prof. Crochet will do it for half the money."

Mr. Knoteworthy—"Oh, well, he can afford to."

Mr. Cash—"Why, is he so very well fixed?"

Mr. Knoteworthy—"I wasn't thinking about his money affairs. He is stone deaf."—Boston Transcript.

Why She Was Sad.

Jack Dashing—"Why in the world do you look so melancholy, my dear girl?"

Penelope—"I'm feeling sorry for you, Jack. I'm thinking of the life I'm going to lead you after we are married."—New York Herald.

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A Queer Thing in the Oil Business Fully Explained.

"You are a producer of petroleum, I believe?"

"I am."

"I would like to ask you a question or two."

"Go on."

"I have noticed that when oil sells high there is a great deal of activity in well-drilling. Why is that?"

"That question is easily answered. We want to take all the advantage we can of high prices. That is natural enough, isn't it?"

"No doubt it is; but when the price of oil is low again prospectors are busy putting down wells. How do you explain that?"

"The explanation of that is quite as simple as the other. When petroleum sells at a low price we have to produce more to obtain the same result in dollars."—Pittsburg Chronicle.

A Married Man.

Merchant Tailor—"Good morning, Mr. Truepay. What can I do for you this morning?"

Mr. Truepay—"I want a suit of clothes."

"Yes, sir; John, the tape and book, please."

"Oh, I don't want a suit to measure. I want a ready-made suit."

"Eh! Ready-made!"

"Yes—a cheap one."

"Certainly—certainly. Right this way, please. I hadn't heard of your marriage."—New York Weekly.

A Mind Reader.

Polite Attendant (as Abraham and Isaac approach the billiard table and handle their cues)—Three balls, gentlemen?

Abraham—Don'd get so vresh, young veller. I reboord you to der brobrietor. (Aside)—Say, Ighey, how do you subbose he got ondo our beceness?—Hartford Times.

Running No Risks.

"I don't know," cried the excited feminine voice in the darkness, "whether you are my husband or burglar, but I'm going to be on the safe side and shoot."—Tit-Bits.

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 1897.

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Every subscriber whose time for the Weekly Blade expires within this month should, by this time, have received a special postal card proposition for a renewal for one year on extraordinarily low terms.

If we have omitted any subscriber whose time expires in January, in sending out these cards, a request should be sent us by mail, as promptly as possible, for a duplicate, as the offer we make will be of great advantage to every one who wants the Weekly Blade. In fact, our announcement in this card is well worth reading, and no one whose time expires in January should fail to study it.

THAT BICYCLE OFFER.

A great many subscribers are hard at work on our bicycle offer, so as to get a good, reliable wheel. The offer is good only for the first two months of this year. The time is getting short, and those who desire to obtain a bicycle free should send at once.

Drop us a postal card for our bicycle circular, and do it quickly, as our offer is for the months of January and February only. One hundred dollars saved is $200 earned. Address "The Blade, Toledo, Ohio."

THE BANK OF FRANCE.

This year the charter of the Bank of France expires, and for some time its officials and the government have been discussing the terms upon which it shall be renewed. This matter has just been settled, and the terms agreed upon are of interest to us here in the United States, because they show the financial policy of France, which has been most successful in managing its finances and consequently in maintaining its credit at the highest point, despite a heavy national debt. The Bank of France, too, is an exceptionally strong and well-managed institution, as it has accumulated the largest specie reserve of any of the great European banks.

The new charter is to run 23 years. The limit of the bank's note issues is to be raised from four billion francs—which it is now—to five billion, or $1,000,000,000. The bank is to advance a loan of 40,000,000 francs to the government without interest, and is to relinquish the interest due it on loans made at certain dates in the past, which now aggregates 140,000,000 francs. About 7,000,000 francs of the bank's notes are supposed to have been destroyed—having been out for a long time and never presented for redemption. The bank is not to gain by this loss of the noteholders. The government takes the 7,000,000 francs and assumes the responsibility of redeeming them if they are ever presented.

Further than this, a new tax is imposed of one-eighth of the rate of discount on that part of the bank's circulation, classified as "productive circulation," in excess of the metallic reserve. In November last this excess was about $100,000,000, the rate of discount being 2 per cent; on such a sum the tax would be $250,000. Various important services are to be added to those already performed for the government free of charge. Some of these relate to the payment of interest on the public debt and the transfer of public funds.

It is a question whether the successful efforts of Andrew Jackson to destroy the old United States bank was not a misfortune to the country. France, Germany, Russia and England have that system, and it has worked well with them. Our national banking system is inferior to any of them in its results, although it is a vast improvement on the old system of state banks we had before the war.

SILVER HIGHWAYMEN.

It is to be feared that the clique of silverites and Populist Senators will, by their opposition, prevent the ratification of the new arbitration treaty between the United States and Great Britain.

Their opposition is not based upon any special objections to the treaty itself, but simply upon personal dislike of President Cleveland and Secretary Olney.

They detest Cleveland because he promptly exercised his official power to protect and maintain the gold reserve in the Treasury, thus preventing the success of the conspiracy to exhaust the reserve, and thus to drive the Treasury and the country to the 50-cent silver standard.

These representatives of the repudiationist element of the country, of the supporters of the Mexicanization of our currency, will never forgive Cleveland from preventing this action, which they realized to be the only way in which they could hope to achieve success.

This opposition to Olney is because of his attitude with regard to the powers of the Executive and Congress in the matter of Cuban recognition. This affords a pretext for opposing, not only Olney, but the treaty, because he prepared it. But the failure of the silver conspiracy, due to the Cleveland administration, is the real ground.

These men are standing in the path of progress and prosperity. They are a menace to the best interests of the whole country. To defeat the arbitration treaty because the country can not be forced upon a silver basis would be a burning reproach, an insult to civilization. The patriotism of the people whom these Senators misrepresent should cause them to call upon the Senate to ratify the treaty.

Those closest to President-elect McKinley do not seem to take much stock in the theory that he will suspend the civil service rules to allow the Republicans to get a good grip on the spoils.

Wash Hesing wants to be mayor of Chicago. Mr. Hesing wants anything in the way of an office he can get.

Chicago's mayor refuses to sign the anti-high hat ordinance, which shows who runs the Swift household.

JOHN SHERMAN.

President-elect McKinley has selected Hon. John Sherman as the premier of his cabinet, and that gentleman has accepted. From the long friendship and mutual esteem existing between the two gentlemen, it is not difficult to understand President McKinley's desire to have the benefit of Mr. Sherman's counsels in the circle of his cabinet advisers.

It would seem that the treasury would be the most familiar sphere of action for Mr. Sherman, for he is more of a financier by training than a diplomatist. Born in 1823, he entered Congress in 1855, and has been there ever since, save for the four years spent as secretary of the treasury under President Hayes. What of training in diplomatic matters he has had came from the discussion of treaties in the Senate, and his present chairmanship of the Senate committee on foreign relations.

But the secretaryship of the treasury is the most onerous position in the cabinet. Daniel Manning and William H. Windom died as the result of the carking cares and vast responsibilities of this position. To invite Mr. Sherman, 74 years of age, to take up this burden, would be to ask him to sign his own death warrant. The duties of secretary of state are far less of a tax upon the incumbent's physical powers.

Now that Mr. Sherman has definitely accepted the position, it is of interest to consider his views, as far as the public is acquainted therewith, on topics connected with our foreign policy, which will be his especial field of work.

First, as to the arbitration treaty between this country and Great Britain, Mr. Sherman has said but little. The press dispatches quote him as characterizing it as "remarkable" and "momentous," but these adjectives convey no distinct impression of either support or opposition. However, Mr. Sherman is not one of those who take diversion in the halls of Congress by indulging in that frothy denunciation which goes by the name of "twisting the lion's tail." He thinks British political institutions "are rapidly approaching our own." In fact, he believes that all of Europe is rapidly becoming republican in substance, if not in form; that the masses there will soon be as potent in legislation as they are in our own country.

Concerning the Cuban and Hawaiian questions, the salient fact reveals itself that Mr. Sherman is an anti-annexationist. This is his position, not as to these two countries in special, but concerning all countries outside our present boundaries. Some two years ago he said:

> Our family of states is already large enough to create embarrassment in the Senate, and a republic should not hold dependent provinces or possessions. Every new acquisition will create embarrassments. Canada and Mexico as independent republics will be more valuable to the United States than if carved into additional states. The Union alread embraces discordant elements enough without adding others. If my life is prolonged I will do all I can to add to the strength and prosperity of the United States, but nothing to extend its limits or to add new dangers by acquisition of foreign territory.

As to the recognition of Cuba, Mr. Sherman, as a member of the Senate committee on Foreign Relations, voted for the Cameron resolution; yet, after it was reported to the Senate, he expressed himself as opposed to its adoption. This change in his attitude probably was due to the fact that strong opposition to that resolution was expressed by the business interests of the country; for Mr. Sherman has always been responsive thereto. At Pittsburg, on his way back from Canton, he submitted to a newspaper interview, in which he said on the Cuban matter:

> I think the United States government should not interfere with the Cuban war, either to aid in its settlement or do anything which would make a peaceful government of the island a charge on this country.
>
> I understand on high authority that Prime Minister Canovas has outlined a programme of governmental reforms which will be applied both in Spain and in Cuba. These reforms will give the Cubans practical autonomy, and will, I hope, settle the question.

On the interoceanic canal question, he is strongly in favor of the Nicaragua scheme, as was President Harrison, and he believes that the United States government ought to take hold of that great work, under proper conditions,and "realize the dream of Columbus" of sailing from Europe westward to reach the East Indies.

It is apparent from these indications that Mr. Sherman will not pursue a "jingo" policy as the head of the state department. In point of fact, he has never been much of an extremist in public affairs, and age has perhaps tended to increase the conservatism of his views. The honor falls upon one worthy to receive it, for Mr. Sherman's public services have been of high value to the country; and though the taking of the position may be a "hazard of new fortunes" to Mr. Sherman, his wide experience and ripe wisdom are assurance that his record as secretary of state will be a most creditable one.

BANKS IN SMALL TOWNS.

Th House of Representatives has just passed a bill, introduced by Mr. Brosius, of Pennsylvania, which will prove of great value to the South and West, if it shall get through the Senate and become a law. It provides that national banks may be established in towns having not more than 4,000 inhabitants, with a capital of $20,000.

The intent of the bill is to improve the banking facilities of the agricultural sections of the United States. The present provisions of the national banking law as to population and capital stock operate to confine the national banks to the cities and larger towns, while in the South and West large areas, devoted to agriculture, with no large cities, are deprived of the banking facilities which they need.

National banks cannot hold real estate for loans except when necessary to secure themselves against losses. Yet the strongest demands for banks comes from farmers, who complain that they are unable to get money, although they have ample security. As a banking asset, real estate is not good, because it is impossible, if the loan is not paid at maturity, to obtain it from this security within a reasonable time.

There are two things which a security offered to a bank must possess in order to make it acceptable. The first is, that the loan shall be secure; second, that the security, in case of non-payment by the borrower, can be speedily realized upon.

Real estate possesses the first of these requisites, but not the second. In case a foreclosure must be resorted to, the legal proceedings are slow in themselves; the laws of many states enable many delays to be interposed; and the expense is therefore large, while the time of realizing the money is absolutely uncertain.

This objection is so great to loan on real estate that the national banking law prohibits such loans. The establishment of banks under the Brosius bill would enable farmers to borrow more easily on other security, however, and its friends believe its passage would do much to relieve the scarcity of loanable funds in the South and West.

A Kansas legislator has prepared a bill to prohibit the wearing of bloomers. The poor women are having a serious time of it with Georgia arrayed against shirt waists, Kansas against bloomers and Chicago and Pittsburg taking a shy at big theatre hats.

THE OHIO SENATORSHIP.

The promotion of Hon. John Sherman from the Senate to a cabinet position will leave a vacancy in that body, beginning on March 4 next. As there are several distinguished Ohio Republicans who aspire to a senatorial seat, the situation in this state has suddenly become extremely interesting.

Senator Sherman's present term expires on March 4, 1899. The General Assembly is not in session this winter. The constitution of the United States provides as follows for such a contingency:

> If vacancies happen, by resignation or otherwise, during the recess of the legislature of any state, the executive thereof may make temporary appointments until the next meeting of the legislature, which shall then fill such vacancies.

The power delegated to the governor, it will be noted, is permissive; the constitution says he "may" appoint. But the next session of the legislature is required to choose a senator; the language is "shall."

Hence, three courses are open to Governor Bushnell regarding the vacancy created. He may appoint some one as senator, who would hold only for March 4 next until the middle of the following January, when the General Assembly is required to elect a senator to fill the vacancy, serving until March 4, 1899; or he may call the General Assembly in extra session this spring to choose Sherman's successor; or he may leave the seat vacant until the regular session of the General Assembly one year hence.

No doubt he would choose the latter alternative were it not understood that President McKinley will convene Congress in extra session by the middle of March, to enact tariff legislation. The political complexion of the Senate is such that the Republicans need all the votes possible, to avoid having the tariff bill "held up" by the silver senatorial junta.

If he appoints, the General Assembly next winter is under no obligation to select his appointee. It may choose whosoever it will. If he convenes that body in extra session this spring, the senator elected will hold until March 4, 1899, leaving to the General Assembly to be elected next November the duty of choosing a senator for the six years beginning on that date.

Mr. Hanna is already in the field as a candidate for the vacancy, and presumably for the full term beginning in 1899. The other prominent candidates are Hon. C. L. Kurtz, Hon. Charles Foster and Hon. Charles H. Grosvenor. Governor Bushnell himself has been desirous of succeeding Senator Sherman at the end of the latter's present term.

Taking these facts into consideration, we are inclined to the judgment that the Governor will convene the General Assembly in extra session to fill the vacancy. Those opposed to Bushnell's candidacy are antagonistic to this, of course, and are already raising objections—for instance, that the legislature, once in session, would enter upon general legislation, continuing its deliberations until far into the summer, thus adding to the expenses of the state, and "embarrassing the Republican campaign this fall."

To this the answer is, if the Republican majority of the Ohio legislature is not wise enough to promptly perform the duty for which it is called, and then adjourn, the people of the state will do well to defeat any and every one who dares to come up for re-election.

INTERNATIONAL TREATY.

As the London Chronicle puts it, "the crowning event of the nineteenth century" was consummated yesterday by the signing of the treaty between the United States and England. This great piece of news was exclusively given the people of Toledo yesterday through The Blade by reason of the enterprise of The Associated Press, and the information was the matter of current comment and congratulation throughout the city.

The treaty was at once submitted to the senate by the President and speedy action may be expected on the part of the two great English speaking nations.

It is a matter over which the world in general and America and England in particular may be congratulated. It means that for five years, and perhaps longer, all differences between the two greatest nations of the earth are to be settled, not by brute force but by proper and wise concessions of both parties. It means the substitution of civilized methods for armies and navies in settling international controversies. It means a new era in the affairs of the world, a brotherhood not to be broken by appeals to force.

In transmitting the treaty to the senate President Cleveland well says:

> It is eminently fitting, as well as fortunate, that the attempt to accomplish results so beneficent should be initiated by kindred peoples, speaking the same tongue, and joined together by all the ties of common institutions, and common aspirations. The experiment of substituting civilized methods for brute force as the means of settling international questions of right will thus be tried under the happiest auspices. Its success ought not to be doubtful, and the fact that its ultimate ensuing benefits are not likely to be limited by the two countries immediately concerned should cause it to be promoted all the more eagerly. The example set and the lesson furnished by the successful operation of this treaty are sure to be felt and taken to heart sooner or later by other nations, and will thus mark the beginning of a new epoch in civilization.

The day marks a new and better era in the world. The brotherhood of man does not seem so far away, and the example of these two great nations will be followed by others until all governments will seek only peaceful solutions of vexatious international problems.

THE ARBITRATION TREATY.

There seems to be a disposition at Washington to postpone action on the new arbitration treaty. The Senate has always taken public business in a very leisurely fashion, and its present make-up is such that the prospects of the treaty appear to be very poor for passing at the present session.

Of course the treaty will be ratified eventually. It is too important a measure to be defeated. It is the first actual step ever taken in the world's history looking to the abolition of war, and the settlement of international differences by something other than mere brute force.

The difficulty in the Senate appears to consist of personal animosity toward Cleveland. Some of the Democratic members, apparently, do not wish to vote for it because it was negotiated by his administration. It will require the solid Republican vote to confirm it, and some of the Senators wish to postpone action until the new administration comes into power, that it may have the credit. Such motives are unworthy of men in the United States Senate. That body should transact public business upon a far higher plane than is here indicated.

President-elect McKinley has made a good beginning on his Cabinet. He can be depended on to keep up the pace to the end.

Tom Watson should be content. He received 20 electoral votes, which are two-score more than he should have received.

The senatorial bee is quite active in Ohio at the present writing.

AFTER SIXTEEN YEARS.

It has taken Thomas H. Platt, of New York, sixteen long years to repair the tactical blunder he and Mr. Conkling jointly committed in 1881, when they resigned their seats in the United States Senate and appealed to the legislature of New York to re-elect them as a "vindication."

Garfield's nomination for President by the national Republican convention of 1880 broke the deadlock resulting from the steadfastness of the famed "306," who supported Gen. Grant's third-term candidacy, and who were led by Senator Conkling. The latter gentleman went into a fit of sulks, as he was prone to do. This action gave much anxiety to Garfield's friends, for it imperiled New York, and that state's electoral vote was a necessity to Republican success.

After much diplomatic maneuvering, Conkling and Gen. Grant journeyed to Mentor, Garfield's home, and the trouble was smoothed over by Conkling's receiving the promise of controlling the national patronage of the state of New York. Conkling and his friends set to work, the state was carried by the Republicans, and Garfield was elected President.

President Garfield appointed Mr. Robertson collector of the port of New York, without consulting Conkling. Robertson was the leader of the anti-Conkling forces in that state, and had done excellent service in the campaign, entitling him to recognition. But this appointment was most distasteful to Conkling, and most mortifying to his overweening pride. He and his colleague, Mr. Platt, resigned in a huff, and became candidates for re-election—thus seeking to obtain a condemnation of the President and of Robertson at the hands of the legislature.

Secretary of State Blaine entered upon the defense of the administration most vigorously. He and Conkling were bitter foes. The bullet of Guiteau had made Garfield, waiting for death, a martyr in the eyes of the American people. The whole power of the administration, under Blaine's acute guidance, was brought to bear upon the New York legislature. Conkling and Platt were defeated, and Conkling was permanently retired from national politics. He died of disease contracted by exposure to the great blizzard in New York of 1890.

Mr. Platt has labored for years to reach a position in national affairs. The Secretaryship of the Treasury has been his ideal, but he has failed to reach it. There was no possibility of his obtaining this under President McKinley, for he bitterly opposed the latter's nomination at St. Louis. Hence he has to satisfy himself with a Senatorship, succeeding David B. Hill in that body.

Mr. Platt is a strong man, and one well equipped for public service. The opposition to him is not based on any such ground, but solely and entirely because of his political methods. He is a machine boss, controlling the Republican party organization in the Empire State by machine methods. It is safe to say that had his Senatorial candidacy been submitted to a vote of the Republicans of that state, he would have been overwhelmingly defeated.

He will be, of course, a vast improvement upon Hill in the Senate; and The Blade has good reason to anticipate that he will not, in that body, attempt to oppose President McKinley factionally, as he and Conkling did Garfield, or as Hill has opposed Cleveland.

OUR SEED OFFER.

Read our splendid seed offer on the fifth page of this issue, and make your arrangements as speedily as possible to take advantage of it.

Those who have purchased seeds of The Blade in previous years do not need to be told that they are fully reliable, and as cheap as the cheapest. You will save money by availing yourself of the offer.

BUSINESS AND FINANCE.

No better exposition of the present business situation has fallen under our notice than the following brief statement from Dun's weekly report of last Saturday: "The greatest growth and prosperity the country had ever seen came suddenly in 1879, after several months of disappointment because specie resumption had not yet brought the benefits expected. It is not the largest and most powerful vessel that can be started most quickly, and it takes time for new confidence to reach through easier money markets, larger orders, resuming mills, expanding employment, and larger distribution, to the results which make still greater and lasting gain possible. Such gradual and steady improvement has been in progress for more than two months."

Though 1879 was a prosperous year, the croakers were by no means silent. The greenbackers and the free silver men refused to see the steady expansion of business; they did not consider the enormous balance in our favor in our foreign trade, the increase in the gold reserve, the improvement in the bank statements, the volume of capital eagerly seeking investments. They either were ignorant that these things are the necessary accompaniments of business health and prosperity, or else played the demagogue to deceive voters.

The situation this year is paralleling that of 1879. In the stock markets the feeling is one of confidence—and no indication is more sensitive than the temper of Wall street. Money for legitimate investment is very plentiful, though there is no disposition toward venturesome speculation. The lessons of the past three years have been too severe for that. The general trend of prices is upward—and this is an indication which very many persons do not understand. Falling markets indicate stress, rising markets the contrary.

On the New York stock market there was a slow but very apparent recovery during the first half of the week. Trading was inactive, however, until Friday, when the publication of the remarkable trade statement for 1896 gave an upward fillip to the entire list. The week closed with great activity. Unusual activity attended the dealings in railway and miscellaneous bonds, and issues that have not been traded in for some time showed considerable activity. From the start prices showed an upward tendency. Govtrnment bonds were only moderately active, but prices are ⅛ to ⅝ per cent higher.

During the campaign all the railroads of the country contributed money and coerced and intimidated their employes to vote for McKinley and better times.—Findlay Courier.

Will you be kind enough to specify one instance in which employes were coerced or intimidated? You make yourself ridiculous by such statements as the above.

Early in March will occur the inaugural parade, and immediately thereafter will come the procession of office seekers.

Is this proposed legislation against bloomers in Kansas meant as thrust at Mary Elizabeth Lease?

POSSIBLE DELAY

In Receiving the Weekly Blade by Mail Next Week.

A force of mechanics and machinists have begun the work of setting up the first of our great new presses—a work equivalent to setting up three of the old ones, as it will do the work of three.

It is possible that next week's issue of The Weekly Blade may be delayed in printing for nearly 24 hours, in which case the paper will not arrive at many points until from one to three days later than the regular day of arrival.

We make this explanation so that subscribers who fail to get the paper on time will understand the reason of the delay. After the presses are at work, there will be no further trouble.

THE MONETARY CONFERENCE.

The monetary conference at Indianapolis did not, as many supposed it would, formulate a bill elaborately setting forth a method of monetary reform. The feeling was that the conference should confine itself to setting forth the objects which it believed should be attained, leaving the consideration of the methods to be adopted in securing them to Congress, where it rightfully belongs. These objects, in th judgment of the conference, were three. Briefly stated, they are as follows:

First—The maintenance of the gold standard. Such a decision was of course expected by every one. The people at the polls last November declared for this, and there was no discussion whatever over this point in the Indianapolis gathering.

Second—The retirement of all kinds of government circulating notes, as rapidly as it can be done without contraction of the currency; and until this can be fully done, to separate the note-issuing and the revenue departments of the Treasury entirely.

Third—That the legislation for bank currency shall be so formulated as to give elasticity, and especially to provide the agricultural states with a sufficiency of loanable funds, thus reducing interest rates therein.

This is the suggestion which touches one of the weakest spots in our present system. The currency of the country tends to accumulate in New York, producing congestion in that money market, and corresponding scarcity in other sections, especially in the West and South.

This scarcity of loanable funds is at the bottom of the cry that there is not enough money in circulation, and the demand for "an increase of the per capita." The real trouble is not that there is not enough currency, but that its distribution is defective. If the vast sums which are lying idle in New York were distributed in these portions of the country which are bare of loanable funds, there would be a great reduction of interest rates in these sections, and an equalization everywhere.

It is significant that there was no opposition in the conference to any of these three propositions. There never has been a gathering of business men so fully representative in its character, or composed of persons of such high standing in their respective lines of business; and all were in agreement as to the things which need reform at the hands of Congress.

We would that many of the men in the West and South who mistakenly view bankers and financial men as harpies and sharks, could have been present and heard these delegates who are interested in banking express their views. All of these gentlemen were strenuous advocates of the third proposition—to increase the local circulation in the West and South. All recognized the need of this. They realize that the prosperity of the banks depends upon the prosperity of the country, and that the purely agricultural sections need a greater money supply in order to be prosperous.

There was no difference of opinion as to what the convention demanded. The only debatable points were as to the method of securing action by Congress most quickly and effectively. Every one was earnest in urging that this work be entered upon without delay, and that the extra session, to be called next March, should not adjourn without enacting legislation for currency reform.

Altogether, the Indianapolis meeting was a most important gathering, and it marks the beginning of an era of sound financial legislation which will not be completed until the errors and compromises of our currency system, which began with the legal tender act of 1862, shal all be remedied. Simplicity must take the place of complexity, redundancy of circulation in one section and lack thereof in others must be equalized, in order that the prosperity which is dawning may be perpetuated.

MONUMENT TO GEN. GIBSON.

At the Republican League meeting to be held at Zanesville next month a plan will probably be discussed looking to the erection of a monument in honor of the old hero, Gen. W. H. Gibson.

It is eminently fitting that the League should do this work. Gen. Gibson was a man whom all delighted to honor, and who was willing at all times to give his best service to his party. He was especially interested in the work of the League, and was always a favorite with the young Republicans of Ohio. The young men of the state will, we believe, be glad to show their appreciation of the work of Gen. Gibson by erecting a monument to his memory. It will be an inspiration to the League as well as a worthy project. By all means let the Zanesville meeting lay hold of this work.

COMMENT OF THE WEEK.

The monetary conference at Indianapolis has adjourned, subject to call by its executive committee, which is to consist of fifteen members, who shall endeavor to procure the passage at the special session of Congress of a bill creating a monetary commission to consider the entire question of the financial system of the United States. If the committee can not secure such legislation it is to create a commission, which shall make a thorough investigation of the monetary affairs and needs of the country, and report to a called session of the convention, accompanying the report, if the commission thinks best, with the draft of a bill.

At this writing, but one of President-elect McKinley's Cabinet has been selected—Senator John Sherman for Secretary of State. The head of the President's official family being chosen, the selection of the remaining members will speedily follow. In the editorial columns we discuss Mr. Sherman's appointment fully.

The Ways and Means committee of the House has completed the hearings of various industries desiring them, and is now hard at work preparing the new tariff bill. It does not follow that what has been asked by any producer will be granted. The new bill will first make ample revenue certain. It will be protection, but will not be what has been termed "high" tariff. More protection will certainly be granted, but rather in the form of the substitution of [illegible] any large or general increase in the duties themselves. There is every reason to believe that as the result of the committee's labors increased protective duties will be distributed only among interests closely affecting large masses of population and industries capable of wide national development, and that the numerous small monopolies, which seek the imposition of a duty tending to increase prices to the million for the sake of a mere handful of manufacturers, will be given the cold shoulder. Where the country in general will be benefitted by an increase of duty it will doubtless be awarded, but where no such prospective benefit can be demonstrated Congress will let the present well enough alone.

The free homestead bill has passed the Senate. It opens for settlement 33,252,541 acres of public land acquired from the Indians, with no charge to settlers beyond the small office fees, and releases from payment those who have heretofore settled on these lands.

The House having defeated the Pacific railway funding bill, the House committee having charge of the subject has appointed a sub-committee to draft a bill for a commission on the lines of the proposition made a few days ago by Mr. Harrison, of Alabama. This proposition calls for the creation of a commission consisting of three members of the Cabinet, who shall have power to settle the indebtedness of all the bond-aided railways to the government, subject to the approavl of the President. There having been some criticism of this proposition in matters of detail, the sub-committee will endeavor to frame a measure obviating them, while retaining the main features of the suggestion. In the work of the committee will be included a plan for the adjustment of the indebtedness of the Sioux City & Pacific railway to the government, inasmuch as the bill now before the committee for this purpose leaves the settlement of this matter with the secretary of the treasury.

An extraordinary year's record is completed with the publication of the preliminary foreign trade statistics for December and the twelve months ended therewith. The exports of merchandise for the month were valued at $117,227,102, an increase of nearly $14,500,000 as compared with the corresponding month of the preceding year. The imports for the month were valued at $57,956,009, a decrease of over $4,200,000 as compared with the corresponding month of 1895. The articles free of duty were valued at $31,897,308, an increase of over $2,400,000 as compared with the corresponding month of the year preceding, while the dutiable goods were valued at $26,058,701, a decrease of nearly $6,700,000 as compared with December, 1895. The non-dutiable exceeded the dutiable articles in value by over $5,800,000 last month, whereas in the corresponding month of 1895 there was an excess of over $3,300,000 on the other side. For both months there was an excess of exports over imports, the excess last month reaching the total of $59,271,093, while in the corresponding month a year ago the excess amounted to $30,328,070.

For the twelve months ending with December the exports were valued at $1,005,878,417, which represents an increase of over $181,000,000 as compared with the preceding year. The imports for the twelve months were valued at $680,556,233, which represents a decrease of over $121,100,000 as compared with the preceding year. The non-dutiable imports were valued at $321,951,526, a decrease of nearly $63,000,000 as compared with the preceding year, while the dutiable imports were value at $358,604,707, which represents a decrease of over $58,200,000 as compared with the preceding year. The dutiable exceeded the free of duty imports by over $36,600,000, whereas the year before there was an excess on the same side amounting to $32,000,000. For the twelve months the excess of exports over imports reached the immense total of $325,322,184, whereas for the preceding year the excess amounted to only $23,190,789.

The gold movement for the month of December was trifling, the exports amounting to only $405,856, while the imports amounted to $2,572,271. In December, 1895, the exports of gold, on the other hand, amounted to $5,481,347, while the imports amounted to only $1,310,448. The imports of gold showed an excess of $2,166,415 over the exports, whereas in the corresponding month the year before the exports showed an excess of $14,170,899 over the imports. The silver exports showed an excess of $5,539,744 over the imports for the month, as compared with an excess of $4,276,048 on the same side in December, 1895. For the twelve months the exports of gold were valued at $56,742,844, a decrease of over $47,800,000 as compared with the preceding year, while the imports on the other hand amounted to $102,766,438, an increase of over $70,000,000 as compared with the preceding year. The imports showed an excess of over $46,023,594, whereas the exports showed an excess of $72,066,287 the year before. Silver exports showed an excess of $50,514,759 over the imports of that metal, as compared with an excess amounting to $42,547,146 for the preceding year.

There is a somewhat common belief that the evils of misgovernment are more in sentiment than in fact, that the blunders or the deliberate malfeasance of public officials, objectionable as they may be, do not after all cause much practical injury. It is apparently, at any rate, for some such reason that people tolerate such misdoing. We may safely presume, however, that that belief has been pretty well knocked out of the people of North Carolina, who now discover that, after a very short term of Populist rule, from being more lightly taxed than the people of any Southern state they have become burdened by taxes up to the very last limit allowed by the constitution. Out in Kansas and in the neighboring territory we may see similar practical consequences of bad government in the poverty and hopelessness of the people. Mismanagement of public affairs is not a misfortune in the sentimental aspect only. Somebody must pay the cost of it just as in the case of the mismanagement of private affairs.

Rumors of negotiations between Washington and Madrid looking to the settlement of the Cuban question have been circulated with much pertinacity of late. From day to day have come reports, now that the Spanish government is about to introduce reforms, and again that Secretary Olney and Senor Canovas del Castillo have agreed upon a settlement which will give the Cubans a large measure of autonomy, including even a control over the tariff of the island. These rumors have been attended with so much particularity that the Cuban representatives in the United States have even been led to protest against the reported arrangement. An interview with the Spanish premier has, however, just been made public in which he declares that absolutely no negotiations are proceeding between Spain and the United States on the subject of Cuba. He says that he is ignorant of the source of the rumors, and only desires to state that they are unfounded.

The latest information in regard to the famine in India shows that the worst has been hitherto concealed and that consequences of the gravest nature have been invited, if not made inevitable, by the fatuity of the Indian government. It was within the power of the imperial authorities to mitigate the distress in theimpoverished provinces to such a degree that no repetition of the familiar horrors of earlier years could be possible. But the necessary measures have not been taken, the the despair which has already led to insubordination may lead to something more serious before relief is secured. The situation reflects a discredit on the English officials which it could hardly have been thought possible that they would allow themselves to incur.

Despite the measures of relief which have at last been inaugurated, the condition is becoming worse instead of better. Not only have thousands died of starvation, but pestilence has been added to famine, and one Bombay newspaper declares that the bubonic plague which is raging in that city has caused a reduction of the population by just one-half. If this is true, it means that more than 400,000 persons have perished. This is truly a frightful state of affairs to contemplate. The rest of the world can do nothing to stop the plague, but it can at least relieve the famine sufferers.

Thos. Slater's offer on page 3 is a beacon of hope [illegible]

KING OSCAR, OF SWEDEN.
Who for the next five years will be the final arbiter in all disputes between the United States and Great Britain.

VARIOUS SALUTATIONS.

Persons who fancy the acme of idiocy reached in the English method of salutation, "How do you do?" which we never mean and which occasionally brings forth a torrent of descriptions of symptoms and maladies, from hypochondriacs, would be glad to use greetings of some other countries, though occasionally a salutation queerer than ours is to be met.

The Spanish usually say: "Go with God, senor."

The Persians: "May thy shadow never grow less."

The Turks: "Be under the guard of God."

The Poles: "How do you have yourself?"

The Germans: "How do you find yourself?"

The French: "How do you carry yourself?"

The Arabians: "Allah be with you."

The Egyptians: "How do you perspire?"

The Chinese: "How have you enjoyed your rice?"

A Japanese Good Morning.

A fall to the knees,
A turn to the toes,
A spread of the hands,
And a dip of the nose—
It takes all these to say good-day
In Chrysanthemum land, so far away.
—Boston Herald.

SOME LATE NEW THINGS.

A new ash sifter is operated by turning a crank connected with a shaft running through the sifter, the central portion of the shaft being a U-shaped bend in it, to which rods running to the ends of the box are fastened, the action of turning the crank thus sliding the sifting-box back and forth in its bed.

A newly patented dashboard for trolley cars has a circular casing in its front side, adapted to hold an electric globe and reflector to use for a headlight.

The latest sash fastener has a toothed rail running the entire length of the upper sash and a lever to engage the teeth at any point desired, so that the window can be lowered to any point.

A new idea in ice tongs has a sliding handle slotted on the usual handles at right angles with the usual position, thus making it possible to carry a flat cake without twisting the wrist sideways.

To prevent street cars from running into trains at grade crossings a new device switches the car from the track, the switch being operated by the action of closing the crossing gates.

A new fish scaler has a reservoir to catch the scales, a knife with a fluted edge projecting over the slotted opening so that the scales slide under the knife blade and into the receptacle.

A new combination walking stick and umbrella has the cane hollowed out so that the umbrella can be placed inside when not in use. The cane telescopes so that it can be carried in the pocket when the umbrella is in use.

To attach a palm-leaf or other flat fan to a sewing machine a Georgia man fastens an upright shaft to the machine with a clutch at the upper end to hold the fan handle, the lower end having a flat wheel to engage a friction wheel running against the main driving wheel of the machine.

A newly patented weighing scale has a series of weights placed along the scale beam, each one of which can be thrown into position at a certain weight without sliding it on the beam as heretofore.

To heat a kettle of water by electricity a new device consists of a water-tight insulated metal ring having a cross brace and an upright handle through which the wire conducting the current passes. All that is necessary to operate it is to set it in the kettle of water and turn on the current.

LAUGHS BY THE WAY.

Jones—What do you think of such a woman as Mrs. Havelock, who can't even go to church without carrying her little doggie with her?

Brown—I think such a woman is married to the wrong man, that's all.—Cleveland Leader.

"Why, old man, I didn't know that she utterly refused you."

"It amounted to the same thing. She said she was willing to wait until I could support her."—Boston Traveler.

"What's that noise?"

"That's my latest boy. Just come to town."

"What's he making all that noise for?"

"Why, that's his inaugural bawl."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Tommy—I wonder why the words is spelled in such funny ways?

Jimmy—'Cause they was made in the first place by the school teachers, and they made 'em so's they would have to be hired to teach how to spell 'em.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Johnny—Mama, this looks as if it would be a big snowstorm, doesn't it?

Mama—It does, indeed.

Johnny (mournfully)—But I guess there's never to be no more snowstorms like the ones they used to have when grandpa was a boy.—Puck.

"If you don't get out of here," said the bartender, who was somewhat given to circuitous statements, "it will become my painful duty to soak you in the neck."

"Might I inquire," responded the gentleman who had stood against the stove for two hours, "might I inquire if this is to be an external or internal treatment?"—Indianapolis Journal.

Little Miss Clara—Don't your sister go with that young man any more?

Little Miss Laura—No; and isn't it a shame for her to treat him so after all the beautiful candy he's bought her!—Puck.

"Why," asked the inquiring one, "why should they allude to womanhood as the fair sex?"

"Probably," said the cynical bachelor, "by the same law of contraries that a church hold-up is called a fair. Eh!"—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Filister—You've read the "Seats of the Mighty?"

Pangs—Yes, and sat in one once when I got into our cook's chair by mistake.—Philadelphia North American.

She—It is remarkable what confidence that Mrs. Storms has in her husband! Believes everything he says.

He—Well, why shouldn't she?

"Why, man! he's a clerk in the weather bureau."—Yonkers Statesman.

The Doctor—You'll be all right soon.

The Victim—Glad to hear it, doctor. I'd hate to die just now, when I've only had the wheel three weeks.—New York World.

"But what does your mother say when you tell those dreadful lies?"

"She says I take after father."—Boston [illegible]

THE POPULAR VOTE.

None of the almanacs or political registers for 1897 agree as to the vote cast at the last November election. According to the Chicago Daily News Almanac McKinley received 7,107,404 votes, Bryan and Sewall 6,287,352, Bryan and Watson 245,728, Palmer 133,542, Levering (Pro.) 130,753, Matchett (Socialist labor) 33,545, and Bentley (National) 13,955. By these figures Bryan's total vote was 6,533,080, leaving McKinley with a plurality of 574,224 and an actual majority of only 133,511.

According to the New York Tribune Almanac McKinley received 7,105,729 votes to 6,491,977 for Bryan on both the Democratic and People's tickets. This would make McKinley's plurality 613,752.

But on Jan. 11 the New York Herald printed what purported to be a table based on the official figures furnished by the various secretaries of state throughout the Union, which differ materially from the returns given in any of the almanacs. This is the latest information accessible, and it gives McKinley's plurality over Bryan's combined vote at 618,742. Its totals are as follows:

McKinley, Rep.	7,121,342
Bryan, Dem.	6,502,[illegible]
Levering, Pro.	132,428
Matchett, Socialist Labor	35,3[illegible]6
Bentley, National	13,533
Total	13,930,842

The Herald gives Bryan and Watson's vote, included in the above total for Bryan, as only 144,928. But this is clearly an error, for it includes the Bryan and Watson vote in Bryan's totals for California, Illinois, Kansas and Vermont without credit to the People's ticket. In these four states alone the irascible and rasping Tom Watson helped Bryan to a total of 69,486 votes. Without the People's party vote in Kansas Bryan would have lost that state by over 30,000, and he would not have had the solitary elector in Kentucky, who slipped in by the narrow plurality of 148 votes.

CURRENT EVENTS.

Paper sails are now made.

Denmark has women sailors.

America has 5,600 distilleries.

Aluminum skates gain favor.

London is to have electric cabs.

A Detroit man has a $3,000 cane.

Mexico has women street cleaners.

'Frisco has Chinese photographers.

In Mexico miners get fifty cents a day.

Emperor William employs twelve valets.

Japan has a trolley road and beer to export.

Michigan vehicle makers average $1.30 a day.

Several Cleveland contractors advocate eight hours.

English coal miners will demand 10 per cent advance.

Minneapolis waiters have inaugurated a series of open social and educational meetings.

An eight-hour agitation meeting of gigantic proportions is to be held in Boston on Washington's birthday.

Mr. Sims Reeves, the celebrated English tenor, is to make his first bow to American audiences this year, at the age of 78.

The Detroit railway employes have adopted a rule that in future promotions must be made on the basis of age in the service.

William C. Hill is a colored sculptor of Washington. In good weather he works at street paving and pursues his art in bad weather. He has done fine work as a sculptor.

Stanley will visit the Belgian possessions on the Congo next spring in company with King Leopold. They will supervise the opening of the railroad between Matadi and Leopoldville.

Dr. Nansen, the explorer, is said to be, above all things, modest and simple and quite unspoiled by success. He will make more than $100,000 out of his writings and lectures on the subject of his voyage.

The Queen of Roumania, the Queen Regent of Spain, Queen Amelia of Portugal, who in this respect follows the example of her mother, the wife of the Comte de Paris, and the Queen of Italy, are all smokers.

Possibly the oldest woman in England is Sarah Thompson, who, on February 5, will be 100 years of age. Mrs. Thompson has smoked a clay pipe for 60 years and bids fair to enjoy life and tobacco for some years to come.

Mrs. Arthur Sewall, wife of the late candidate for Vice-President of the United States, is an expert amateur photographer, and has received diplomas for her work not only in New York and Boston, but also in Paris. Mrs. Sewall, who has traveled extensively both in America and Europe, has made a charming collection of landscape photographs.

Burglars are the great terror of Mme. Patti's life at Craig-y-nos Castle, and she has had all the window shutters fitted with electric bells, which start ringing at the slightest touch, while by the same machinery a gun is fired and a number of dogs are let loose in the grounds. Special watchmen are told off every night on "round" duty.

The very latest thing in poets is a young Japanese named Yone Noguchi, who has been discovered and exploited by those extremely up-to-date publications, the Lark and the Philistine. The lad was educated in Tokyo, but has spent the last three years with Joaquin Miller, on his ranch in California. A controversy is now raging over the question whether Noguchi plagiarizes or only "absorbs."

WHAT ONE WOMAN THINKS.

A woman is as good as a man any day.

Dearest friends make the best enemies.

Marriage is sometimes the grave of love.

It's a bad workman quarrels with his tools.

Sinners never hear any harm of themselves.

An old girl makes a young married woman.

There is something better than beauty, and that is charm.

There are not husbands enough to go around—statistics prove it.

A lie should be large and adaptable, and allow a margin for alteration.

There's no sight more deplorable than a man who can't employ himself.

All lovers' promises are, of course, entirely founded on the doctrine of probabilities.

A woman may just as well give up the game when once she can't make the other woman jealous.

It is my theory that half the unhappiness of married life comes to husbands and wives being constantly together—all in all to each other.—Good Housekeeping.

Men! Do not despair. Read Thos. Slater's offer on page 3.

Publishers' Column.

WALTHAM AND ELGIN WATCHES.

Some months ago, after supplying our readers several thousand good watches at wholesale prices, we discontinued the offer. For a few weeks we shall offer the following small list much below our former prices, owing to reduction of certain grades by the manufacturer. A couple will be recognized as standard watches of our former list. The others are good grades at reduced prices.

OFFER NO. 8.—BLADE SPECIAL.

Open Face or Hunting Case, Waltham or Elgin Works—Be Sure to Name Your Choice When You Order.

A $200 solid gold watch cannot be bought for $20, but the Weekly Blade offers a watch under the above number which has all the appearances and most of the good qualities of a $200 watch. You have probably never seen a watch like this and must therefore depend upon us for the description of the latest, handsomest and best watch made by the great American Waltham and Elgin factories. Time and money have been spent in bringing this particular watch to perfection. The movement (or works) contains 15 jewels, compensation balance, safety pinion, patent regulator, and all improvements. The case is the thinnest filled watch case ever made. Remember, we mean that the watch when closed in the pocket is thin. The lids of the case are the usual thickness and form a perfect protection for the movement. The case is made of a plate of fine composition metal, over which two heavy sheets of 14k. gold are drawn, making a case that is for all purposes as good as gold, and warranted for 20 years. Every part which is subjected to constant wear, such as the ring, thumb piece, joint plugs, hinges, etc., is of solid gold. The works are especially recommended where the most accurate time is required. This is just the watch for doctors, lawyers, clergymen, county committeemen, and all others who wish a really first-class article. As a present it cannot be excelled. It is so thin and convenient in form that it will even make a good and satisfactory ladies' watch, and it is especially recommended for school teachers and other professional women on account of its accuracy, which is equalled by no watch made especially for ladies.

We will send this watch, open face or hunting case, as desired, by registered mail to any of our subscribers for $20.

No. 333.

No. 333 is one of the finest gentlemen's watches we have ever offered. The movements, either Waltham or Elgin, are full jeweled, and are guaranteed perfect timekeepers. The case is of the finest gold-filled, and guaranteed to wear the same as solid gold for 15 years. The price of this watch in open face is $13.50, and in hunting case, $16.50.

Lady's Watches, Waltham or Elgin, $20.00.

No. 15.—The works are manufactured at Waltham or Elgin. They are made of the finest materials, carefully selected. The jewels are all cut and polished in Europe, where secret processes are handed down from generation to generation. The dial is made of the finest porcelain, and the hands of blue tempered steel. The case is solid 14k. United States assay, handsomely engraved. This watch is a stem winder and setter and hunting case. We will send this watch, delivery guaranteed, for $20.

Lady's Watches, Waltham or Elgin, $15.

No. 16.—The works of No. 16 are the same as No. 15, but the case is gold filled, 14k., guaranteed to wear just like solid gold for 20 years. The joints, plugs and parts exposed to unusual wear are solid gold. It is hunting case, and is handsomely engraved. Sent by registered mail, delivery guaranteed, for $15.

Gentlemen's Watches.

No. 200.—Solid gold 40 dwt. hunting case with Elgin or Waltham works. 18 size, 14 karat, and guaranteed timekeeper, sent by registered mail to any part of the United States for $33.50.

No. 201—Gold filled Elgin or Waltham watch, 18 size, open face case, guaranteed for 15 years. The movement or works contain seven jewels. This watch will be sent to any subscriber of The Blade in perfect order, delivery guaranteed, for $10.

Address all orders:

THE BLADE,
Toledo, Ohio.

FAMOUS BATTLE PICTURES.

Owing to a popular demand from our subscribers, and especially from members of the G. A. R., we have arranged with a large publisher for a quantity of pictures of the most celebrated battles of the civil war. These pictures are of a high grade, chromo colors, large size (22x28), reproduced from the original oil paintings with wonderful accuracy. More than 100,000 have been sold during the past year at one dollar each, and our price to any person who orders a picture alone will be one dollar. But we did not get these pictures for sale or for profit. We propose to give one picture free, postpaid by mail, to every person sending us $1 for the Weekly Blade one year. If your time expires soon, you can obtain a picture when you renew. If your time expires some time hence, and you want a picture now, send a dollar, and let us extend your time a year ahead from date of expiration. Or, get us a new subscriber and we will enter the new name for Blade one year, and send the picture to the remitter, if so directed. However, we are confident those who obtain one picture, will want several more, or perhaps all of them. You can obtain them one at a time by sending us new dollar subscribers. Try one of them when you renew.

NOTICE, however, that the above offer is only to those who send us $1 for subscription or renewal after this date.

Here is the list; make your selection from it:

Battle of Gettysburg, Pa.
Battle of Shiloh, Tenn.
Battle of Five Forks, Va.
Battle of Missionary Ridge, Tenn.
Battle of The Wilderness, Va.
Battle of Fort Donelson, Tenn.
Battle of Champion Hill, Miss.
Battle of Antietam, Md.
Battle of Atlanta, Ga.
Battle of Spottsylvania, Va.
Battle of Vicksburg, Miss.
Battle of Chattanooga, Tenn.
Battle of Cold Harbor, Va.
Battle of Resaca, Ga.
Battle of Lookout Mountain, Tenn.
Battle of Olustee, Fla.
Battle of Fredericksburg, Va.
Battle of Bunker Hill.
Battle of Tippecanoe.
Battle between the Monitor and the Merrimac.
Battle of Pea Ridge, Ark.
Battle of Bull's Run, Va.
Battle of Chancellorsville, Va.
Battle of Big Horn (Custer's Last Charge.)
Battle of Chickamauga, Ga.
Storming of Fort Wagner, S. C.
Capture of Fort Fisher, N. C.
Battle of New Orleans, La.
Battle of Cedar Creek, Va.
Capture and Death of Sitting Bull.
Battle of Kenesaw Mountain, Ga.
Battle of Stone River, Tenn.
Assault on Fort Sanders, Tenn.
Battle of Franklin, Tenn.
Battle of Nashville, Tenn.
Battle of Corinth, Miss.
Perry's Victory on Lake Erie.
Fort Pillow Massacre, Tenn.
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Battle of Williamsburg, Va.
Fall of Petersburg, Va.
Battle of Opequan or Winchester, Va.

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1 dozen teaspoons	$1 25
½ dozen teaspoons	85
1 dozen tablespoons or forks	2 35
½ dozen tablespoons or forks	1 35
1 dozen dessert spoons or forks	2 00
½ dozen dessert spoons or forks	1 15
½ dozen table knives	2 25
1 dozen table knives	4 25

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This is a new edition, revised in 1891, [illegible] in clear but fine type. It comprises [illegible] small, compact volumes in paper covers, and the 30 books will weigh about 12 pounds.

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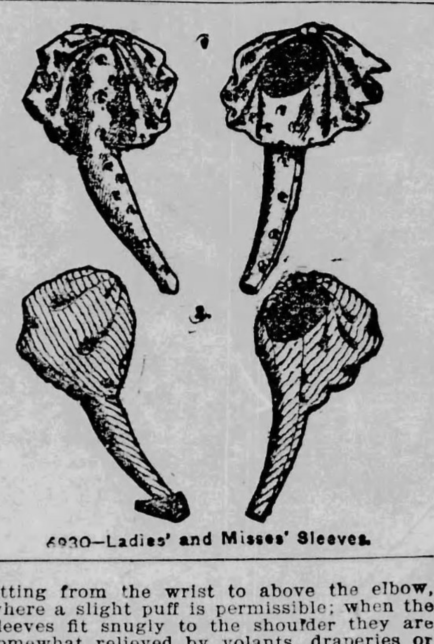
CUT PAPER PATTERNS

Splendid Offer to Lady Readers of The Blade.

NO. 6930—LADIES' AND MISSES' SLEEVES.

The sleeve which blew itself out so long and so pretentiously is energetically repressed by Dame Fashion to its proper dimensions, and now shows the truth of the old proverb "Modesty adorns," as it appears in the reduced state both more graceful and ornamental than before. Fashion dictates, however, that the sleeves must be close-



6930—Ladies' and Misses' Sleeves.

fitting from the wrist to above the elbow, where a slight puff is permissible; when the sleeves fit snugly to the shoulder they are somewhat relieved by volants, draperies or epaulets. Two pretty designs are here given.

No. 1 is developed in brown canvas-cloth with figures in hyacinthe purple. The adjustment, close to the shoulders, has a graceful drapery above terminating in a soft knot at the shoulder. The wrists have a slight point extending over the hand. No. 2 may be rightly termed a modified sleeve, serving as a compromise between the sleeve of last season and the extremely tight-fitting ones of this. It is made in granite woolen and has a separate portion. The fulness stands out fashionably from gathers at the top, fitting the arm closely below. The wrist is finished with a cuff of a decidedly original shape.

To make these sleeves for a lady in the medium size requires two and one-fourth yards for No. 1 design and one and three-eighths yards for No. 2 design, of 44-inch wide material. For a miss in the medium size requires two yards for No. - design and one and one-eighth yards for No. 2 design of the same width material.

The pattern, No. 6930, is cut in sizes for a 32, 36 and 40-inch bust measure, and misses 12, 14 and 16 years of age.

NO. 6665—LADIES' TEA GOWN.

Figured cashmere made this pretty morning wrapper, the decorations being insertion and satin ribbon. A glove-fitting body lining of basque length is provided, over which the full back and fronts are disposed, the tops being shirred with a heading and applied at square-yoke depth. The upper part of the lining is faced to simulate a yoke.

6665—TEA GOWN

The sides fit smoothly, displaying the graceful curves of the figure, and adding much to the graceful appearance of the gown. Stylish-pointed bretelles lie smoothly over the shoulders, the edges being trimmed with insertion, and a twist of ribbon with rosettes at each side decorating the top. A stock collar of satin ribbon to match covers the close-fitting collar that finishes the neck. The fashionable Paquin sleeves are arranged over comfortably fitted linings, the wrists being finished with pointed bands or simulated cuffs. House gowns or wrappers of wool or cotton wash fabrics can be attractively developed by the mode, which is dainty enough for silk or more costly fabrics, with yoke and cuffs of contrasting fabric or color, a desirable combination can be affected.

To make this wrapper for a lady having a 36-inch bust measure, it will require 6½ yards of 44-inch wide material. The pattern, No. 6665, is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42-inch bust measure, and retails for thirty-five cents.

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The above pattern or patterns will be mailed to any address for only 10 cents each. We will fill orders from any person, whether a regular or occasional reader of The Blade. In ordering, address "Pattern Department, Blade, Toledo, Ohio," enclose ten cents silver for each pattern wanted, (do not send stamps if you can obtain other funds). State both title and number of pattern. No coupon required.

Full description and directions—as the number of yards and material required, the number and names of the different pieces in the pattern, how to cut and fit and put the garment together—are sent with each pattern, with a picture of the garment to go by.

BRILLIANTS.

Money answers everything,
But a guilty conscience' sting,
Whose immortal torments are
Quite insupportable to bear.
Nor the silver of Peru,
Nor the wealth the East do show,
Nor the softest bed of down,
Nor the jewels of a crown,
Can give unto the mind a power
To bear its twinges half an hour.
—Roger Wolcott.

Some tombs are altars! On them flame
The beacon lights of sacrifice,
Like stars fair set in skies of fame
To light the way for seeking eyes;
Beside them lie the conqueror's bays,
The patriot's sword, the poet's pen—
Like kindling stars to set ablaze
The fire divine in hearts of men.
—M. E. Blake.

Age, I do abhor thee;
Youth, I do adore thee;
Oh, my love, my love is young!
Age, I do defy thee;
O sweet shepherd, hie thee!
For methinks thou stay'st too long.
—Shakespeare.

There's many an excellent saint,—
St. George with his dragon and lance;
St. Patrick, so jolly and quaint;
St. Vitus, the saint of the dance;
St. Denis, the saint of the Gaul;
St. Andrew, the saint of the Scot;
But Jonathan, youngest of all,
Is the mightiest saint of the lot!
—John G. Saxe.

TO THE DANDELION.

My childhood's earliest thoughts are linked
with thee;
The sight of thee calls back the robin's
song,
Who, from the dark old tree
Beside the door, sang clearly all day long.
And I, secure in early piety,
Listened as if I heard an angel sing
With news from heaven, which he did
bring
Fresh every day to my untainted years,
When birds and flowers and I were happy
peers.

How like a prodigal doth Nature seem,
When thou, for all thy gold, no common
art!
Thou teachest me to deem
More sacredly of every human heart,
Since each reflects in joy its scanty gleam
Of heaven, and could some wondrous secret show,
Did we but pay the love we owe,
And with a child's undoubting wisdom look
On all the living pages of God's book.
—J. R. Lowell.

"'BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES' are excellent for the relief of Hoarseness or Sore Throat. They are exceedingly effective."—[illegible]

Sarsaparilla Sense.

Any sarsaparilla is sarsaparilla. True. So any tea is tea. So any flour is flour. But grades differ. *You want the best.* It's so with sarsaparilla. There are grades. You want the best. If you understood sarsaparilla as well as you do tea and flour it would be easy to determine. But you don't. How should you? When you are going to buy a commodity whose value you don't know, you pick out an old established house to trade with, and trust their experience and reputation. Do so when buying sarsaparilla.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla has been on the market 50 years. Your grandfather used Ayer's. It is a reputable medicine. ***There are many Sarsaparillas—but only one Ayer's.*** It cures.

VIRGIL'S FACE.

A SPLENDID MOSAIC REPRESENTING THE POET WRITING THE AENEID.

Unearthed at Susa—Scholars Agree That This is the First Authentic Likeness of the Famous Roman.

All artists, and also all admirers of the great classical writers, will be interested to know that a splendid portrait of the poet Virgil has just been discovered in Tunis. A remarkable fact in itself, this discovery is specially notable in view of the fact that the portrait was found under unusual circumstances, and that Tunis is one of the last places where one would expect to find a portrait of the renowned Latin poet. French convict soldiers are constantly at work in Tunis, and of late years have unearthed many valuable relics of antiquity. Most of these relics have been found in a mine near Susa, the most notable being a superb series of mosaics, representing Ganymede, nymphs, the Indian triumph of Bacchus and other mythological events. In the same mine, too, was discovered the portrait of Virgil.

The soldiers were at work on a new section of the mine, and had hardly broken the surface when they saw lying at their feet a lovely and perfectly preserved mosaic. The officer on guard was notified and at once secured the treasure.

The mosaic is a small tablet, about a yard square, and on it Virgil is represented reading the Aeneid, while behind him stand two Muses. The poet is clothed in a wide white toga, with a blue border, which is negligently draped around him. He is seated on a cushion or divan, and his full face is shown. He holds on his knees a roll of parchment, which is open and folded back. On it is written in running letters the following line, which is one of the first in the Aeneid:

"Musa, mihi causas memora quo numine laeso;
Quidve," * * *

Here is the translation:

"Muse, relate to me the causes, what deity being offended;
Or why," * * *

With head erect, eyes intent, expression as of one inspired and with his right hand placed upon his breast, the index finger being raised, the poet listens to Clio and Melpomene, who stand behind him and alternately dictate the melodious lines of the

poem. Noble figures are those of the two Muses as fashioned in this mosaic. Each bears on her hair the crown and jewel appropriate to all the Muses, but each is unlike the other as regards attitude and costumes.

The Muse of History stands to the right of the poet and reads to him a manuscript which she holds with her two hands. She is a gracious young girl, simply clad in a blue floating tunic, fashioned of some light material, over which is thrown a bright yellow scarf. The Muse of Tragedy leans to the left on the back of the poet's couch and listens attentively to what is being read. Her features are more impressive than those of her companion; she is a woman of somber and austere beauty.

Her costume is of wonderful richness. A costly robe covers her from head to foot, being fastened by a belt. It is fashioned of heavy purple brocade and is bordered with green and studded with gold. Over her left arm is thrown a blue mantle and on this rests a tragic mask. Each foot is shod with a cothurnus.

The work, from an artistic point of view, is simple, sober and free from blemish. The technique is irreproachable; with the exception of a few blue decorations, all the cubes are fashioned of marble. There is a marked style about the work, showing that it was produced at a favorable epoch, probably about the end of the first century of our era.

The artistic value of this mosaic, however, is small when compared with its historical value.

This is the first authentic portrait of Virgil which has yet been discovered, not one of those which have hitherto been supposed to represent him having the slightest claim to authenticity. Such at least is the opinion of classical scholars.

Yet there is no evidence that the portrait of the poet as it appears in this mosaic, was made from nature. We know that Virgil spent some time in Sicily, but none of his biographers say that he ever visited Africa. Furthermore, there is ample evidence that the poet must have been dead at least a hundred years before this mosaic was made. We can only conclude, then, that this is a reproduction of some celebrated portrait of the poet, or perhaps of one of those vignettes to which Martial refers, and which used to ornament the title page in old manuscript editions of the Aeneid.

The resemblance between these miniatures and this African mosaic is indeed striking. In both the poet appears as a beardless man with short hair, who is clad in a white toga, and who is seated with a manuscript on his knees. Many of these miniatures have come down to us from the Middle Ages, and, as they all seem to have been copied from portraits much more ancient, the likelihood is that they and the African mosaic were reproduced from the same prototype.

Col. Dechizelle has taken charge of the African mosaic an has instructed that it be placed on exhibition for some days in the reception room of the Fourth regiment at Susa. M. Gauckler, who has for some time superintended those searching for antiquities in Tunis, sent a lengthy report of the discovery to the Academy of Inscriptions and Belles Lettres at Paris, which was read at the last meeting of the Academy by his friend, M. Gaston Boissier. The ultimate destination of the African mosaic is not yet known, but the likelihood is that it will be placed in the National Museum at Paris.—New York Herald.

"It is well to know that attempted things
Are counted and crowned by the King of
Kings."

[illegible]

TO THE POLE.

LIEUT. PEARY'S PLAN FOR SOLVING THE MYSTERY.

A Perfectly Feasible and Safe Scheme for Reaching the Northern End of the Earth's Axis.

The American Geographical Society has given Lieut. Peary a gold medal for his having established the fact that Greenland is an island. In his response, Lieut. Peary outlined a plan for reaching the north pole. He said the pole was certain soon to be reached, as it is now only a question of time and money. His own expedition had convinced him that, "from a sufficient depot of provisions and equipment in the latitude of Independence Bay, the pole is attainable." He believed that the results of his own expeditions, together with those of Nansen and Jackson, show that there is left but one practical route by which to attain the north pole, and that is the route through Smith Sound and along the northwest coast of Greenland. Mr.

PEARY'S PLAN OF DISCOVERY.

Peary explained the objects and plan of the proposed work in part as follows:

"My plan is to raise a fund sufficient to insure the continuation of the work of exploration for ten years if necessary, say $150,000, and deposit in a trust company, purchase a ship, give her a minimum crew, load with concentrated provisions, proceed to Whale Sound, take on board several picked families of my faithful Eskimos with their tents, canoes, dogs, etc., force a way through Robeson Channel to Sherard Osborne Fjord or further, and land people and stores, then send the ship back.

"As soon as the freezing of the ice in the great fjords of the northwest coast

LIEUTENANT PEARY.

would permit sledge travel the work of advancing supplies northeastward along the coast would be commenced, taking comparatively short stages and light loads so that the trips could be quickly made. As soon as the supplies had been advanced the first stage, the party itself would move forward, leaving a cache behind, and as they would be following Eskimo customs and living in snow houses this could easily be done.

"Then the second stage of advance would be taken up and the work carried on until the departure of the sun. Each of the brilliant winter moons of the polar night would afford opportunities for continuing it, so that early spring should find the party and the bulk of its supplies located at the northern terminus of the North Greenland Achipelago, probably not far from the 85th parallel, with caches behind it at each prominent headland.

"From this point, when the proper time came, with picked dogs, the lightest possible equipment, and two of the best of the Eskimos, the dash for the pole would be attempted, with strong probabilities of a successful termination.

"Should the first season be unfavorable as regards ice conditions, it could be devoted to a detailed survey of the archipelago itself and a reconnaisance of the east coast as far south as possible, and the northern journey reserved for the following season, or the next.

"Each succeeding summer the ship would attempt to establish communication with the party's base, succeeding probably every other year at first, then with increasing experience, every year, and keep up its supply of food, dogs, and Eskimos until the objects of the expedition were accomplished.

"Should the ship be unsuccessful in the passage of Robeson Channel the first year, the party would land at Hayes's Sound, and devote the first year to explorations of that unknown region. Retreat from the colony at Sherard Osborne Fjord would always be practicable across the island ice to Whale Sound.

"The points in favor of this project are:

"1. The utilization of the Eskimo, the people best fitted in the world for that particular kind of work—men who, under the leadership of one whom they know to be their friend and in whom they have the utmost confidence, would follow to the end, faithful and loyal as their own magnificent dogs.

"2. Land for a base. The party launched into the icy waste from the Northern Archipelago would have some definite, fixed point to which to return, rather than a ship drifting with the drifting ice, to vanish like a will o' the wisp, as did the Fram from Nansen. Then should the party be swept westerly in its retreat it would still strike land, and finding depots at each prominent headland could easily reach headquarters.

"3. A practicable and already utilized route for a retreat independent of the ship or outside assistance."

AS THE SUN WENT DOWN.

Two soldiers lay on the battlefield
At night when the sun went down.
One held a lock of thin gray hair
And one held a lock of brown.

One thought of his sweetheart back at home,
Happy and young and gay,
And one of his old mother left alone,
Feeble and old and gray.

Each in the thought that a woman cared,
Murmured a prayer to God,
Lifting his gaze to the blue above,
There on the battle sod.

Each in the joy of a woman's love
Smiled through the pain of death,
Murmured the sound of a woman's name,
Though with his parting breath.

Pale grew the dying lips of each,
Then, as the sun went down,
One kissed a lock of thin gray hair,
And one kissed a lock of brown.
—Town Talk.

Gave Him the Tip.

A good old minister who has for many years filled a west side pulpit, went to call on one of the members of his flock a few days ago, and upon reaching the house encountered little Tommy, who was playing in the yard.

"My boy," said the reverend gentleman, "are your parents at home?"

"No," replied the future citizen, not knowing whom he was addressing; "they ain't here now, but you better come and wait. Pa's got eight decks of cards and a case of beer, and I heard him sayin' a little while ago that there was goin' to be a high old time here to-night."—Cleveland Leader.

Explained.

The Court—You say you were unable to see the fire; how was that? [illegible]

AN ARTISTIC NURSERY.

A Woman's Idea to Build Flats for People With Children.

"We shall shortly build a block of flats containing nurseries," said a woman architect who resides in Brooklyn, according to the New York World.

"It is the fault of our modern civilization that there is no place prepared for the children, and it remains for a woman architect to plan a house where the children can have a chance to live without getting under the feet of the grown folks.

"In the first place, the nursery is to be a sunshiny room and the windows are to extend to the floor, so that the toddlers can look out of doors without having a chair to stand on.

"The floor is to be inlaid in designs to invite games. There will be four checker-board designs and there will also be a plan for hop-scotch game, a race track for trains of cars and the whole animal kingdom on wheels.

"The wall paper will be illustrated from Mother Geose and not only with the pictures but the verses as well. One side of the wall will be a blackboard and there will be diminutive cupboards for dishes, and niches in the wall will invite hobbyhorses and there will be shelves for all sorts of toys.

"When my modern flat building is up I shall advertise thus:

TENANTS WITHOUT CHILDREN
NEED NOT APPLY.

"It goes without saying that there will be a roof garden on top."

THE "SKY-SCRAPERS."

The Metropolitan City Ahead of Her Great Rival On Lake Michigan.

Chicago has proclaimed herself the city pre-eminent for tall buildings, but she is no longer in the same class with New York in this respect. Indeed, it would take her two years to catch up even if the folk on Manhattan Island were to stop where they are now, as the legislature is expected to demand of them. It will take some little time to get a prohibition bill through at Albany, and between now and then there is every prospect that the sky-scraping record will be broken again and again.

Architecture and Building gives the following list of tall buildings. It says New York is pre-eminently the home of the "sky-scraper." The following are the heights of twenty-nine buildings recently constructed or in process of construction in New York:

Building.	Stories.	Feet.
Ivins Syndicate	29	386
Manhattan Life, including tower.	18	348
St. Paul	26	313
American Surety	21	312
Pulitzer, including dome	16	309
American Tract Society	21	306
Commercial Cable	20	304
Gillender	19	300
Standard Oil (remodeled)	19	280
Bank of Commerce	19	264
Home Life Insurance, including tower	16	257
Washington, including tower	13	250
New York Life, including tower.	12	244
S. L. Mitchell estate	15	230
Mutual Life	14	230
Manhattan Hotel	16	223
Produce Exchange, including tower	9	225
Bowling Green	16	224
New Netherland Hotel	16	220
Central Syndicate	15	219
Hudson	16	218
Lord's Court	15	214
Johnston	15	212
Syndicate	15	207
Continental Insurance	14	215
Postal Telegraph	13	192
Havemeyer	14	192
Mutual Reserve	13	184
Silk Exchange	13	180

Chicago's representative high buildings over 180 feet:

Building.	Stories.	Feet.
Masonic Temple, to apex of roof	20	300
Auditorium, including tower	17	265
Fisher, including attic	18	235
Old Colony	17	213
Katahdin and Wachusetts	17	206
Unity	17	210
Marquette	16	207
Monadonck	16	215
Ashland Block	16	200
New Great Northern	16	200
Manhattan	16	197
Reliance	14	200
Security	14	200
Title and Trust	16	198
Woman's Temple	15	197
Champlain	15	189

In speaking of the largest of these buildings the paper says:

"Where only a few years ago we had to contend with simple problems of construction, such as the building of five and eight stories within 100 feet in height, we are now working out difficult problems from fifteen to twenty-nine stories and 350 feet in height. Within five years we came to the conclusion that the sixteen-story building was the limit, but since that time the twenty-story, and the most notable building of its size, now in course of construction, is being erected in Park row, this city. It is to be twenty-nine stories high, covering an area of nearly 15,000 square feet, and no part will be less than twenty-five stories in height. The front, facing the postoffice, will be twenty-seven stories, the top cornice being 336 feet above the street level. The two flanking towers will each contain two stories, to be used as offices, the cornice of the towers being 355 feet above the street, and the top of the lantern 386 feet above the same level. The foundations extend 34 feet below the street level, making the total height of the structure from the top of piles to the top of lanterns 420 feet, the total dead and live load being about 50,000 tons."

"DESERVED A GOOD BUSINESS."

The Parson's Good Wishes for a Generous Subscriber.

The debt of the struggling little church in the suburbs had all been paid off but $600, says the Chicago Tribune.

A clergyman noted for his skill and success in raising church debts had been sent for, and was conducting the morning serivce. The sermon was over, and the work of stirring up the audience to the requisite pitch of enthusiasm had begun. Subscriptions rose rapidly to $300, then $400, and after considerable effort to $500, where they stuck. In vain the visiting brother exhorted and pleaded. The limit of the cash resources of the congregation appeared to have been reached, and at last he sat down, discouraged.

Then Brother Plantus, a highly respected undertaker, who had made a liberal subscription already, rose and said:

"Brethren, this thing shan't fall through after it has got as far along as $500. I believe in a man giving as the Lord has prospered him, and, although I have given a pretty good-sized donation, I am ready to do more. I'll pay that last hundred dollars myself. Here's my check for the amount."

"I don't know your name, brother," shouted the visiting preacher, jumping to his feet with enthusiasm, "but I hope your business will double during the coming year, and I believe it will!"

Having married the fiddler, the Princess Chimay-Caraman may have to dance later.—New York Press.

Constipation

Causes half the sickness in the world. It retains the digested food too long in the bowels and produces biliousness, torpid liver, indigestion, coated tongue, sick headache, etc. Hood's Pills cure constipation and all its results, easily and thoroughly. 25 cents. [illegible]

Hood's Pills

A SPLENDID COLLECTION OF CHOICE

Vegetable and Flower SEEDS

Absolutely Given Away To Our Subscribers.

MAY'S ROYAL PANSIES.

NORTHWEST PREMIER PEA.

By special arrangement with MESSRS. MAY & CO., ST. PAUL, MINN., we will send postpaid, SPECIAL COLLECTIONS of Vegetable and Flower Seeds to all who subscribe for the WEEKLY BLADE.

These collections are put up for the exclusive use of the WEEKLY BLADE. Many of the varieties offered are new and choice, being introduced for the first time this season, and retail at 10c, 15c, and 25c per packet. Other sorts are standard varieties which have stood the test in all sections and proven thoroughly reliable. PLEASE READ OUR OFFERS CAREFULLY.

THE FOLLOWING COLLECTIONS SENT POSTPAID:

OFFER NO. 1.
The Farm Garden.

This collection includes the standard varieties of Vegetable Seeds which are adapted to all sections of the United States. To any one sending $1 for the Weekly Blade one year we will send this collection free, post paid. This package if bought at retail would cost $1.40.

BEAN, R. P. Golden Wax	$ .10
ONION, Globe Danvers	.05
PEA, N. W. Premier	.10
TOMATO, The Acme	.05
CABBAGE, Surehead	.05
CORN, Early Minnesota	.05
CARROT, Danvers	.05
RADISH, Rosy Queen	.10
CUCUMBER, Garden Gem	.15
LETTUCE, Early Simpson	.05
TURNIP, Purple Top	.05
SQUASH, Sibley	.05
WATERMELON, Ice King	.10
PUMPKIN, Connecticut	.05
PARSNIP, Hollow Crown	.05
RADISH, Long Scarlet	.05
RUTABAGA, Shamrock	.05
MUSK MELON, Minnesota Perfection	.10
PARSLEY, Plain	.05
BEET, Market Gardener	.10
Retail price	$1.40

Packet alone to subscribers, 55c, postpaid.

OFFER NO. 2.
Flower Garden.

To any one sending us $1.00 for a year's subscription to the Weekly Blade we will send, postpaid, the following charming collection of Flower Seeds. These are all free flowering annuals, and will produce a beautiful display of flowers during the summer months. Cultural directions on every packet. The regular retail price of this assortment is $1.30.

ASTERS, German Mixed	$ .10
PANSY, German Show	.10
NASTURTIUM, Tall Mixed	.05
POPPIES, Paeonia Mixed	.10
GAILLARDIA, Mixed	.05
GODETIAS, Giant Mixed	.10
MIGNONETTE, Sweet	.05
PETUNIA, Imperial Mixed	.10
ZINNIAS, Giant Mixed	.10
SWEET PEA, California Mixed	.10
FOUR O'CLOCKS	.05
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MORNING GLORIES	.05
WIL FLOWER GARDEN, a collection of different varieties	.15
PANSY, Swanley Blue	.15
Retail price	$1.30

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OFFER NO. 3.
Our Novelty Package.

To any one sending $1.00 for a year's subscription to the Weekly Blade we will send, postpaid, this collection free. In this assortment will be found many rare varieties of Vegetable and Flower Seeds of late introduction, some of which retail at 10c, 15c, and 25c per packet. These late introductions are vast improvements over the common sorts, and consequently more valuable. Retail price of this collection is $2.25.

PEAS, May's Sunol	$ .10
BEET, Cheltenham, Favorite	.10
CUCUMBER, Early Prize	.10
CABBAGE, Surprise	.15
ONION, Red Wonder	.15
MUSK MELON, Pickaniny	.15
CORN, Early Windsor	.10
RADISH, Queen of Market	.10
TOMATO, Shenandoah	.15
PANSY, Star Mixed	.25
SWEET PEAS, Gold Mixed	.10
PINK, Royal Banner	.15
GIANT SWEET WILLIAM	.10
VERBENA, Mammoth Mixed	.15
NASTURTIUM, Imp. Mixed	.10
PETUNIA, Rose Queen	.10
PANSY, Harlequin	.20
Retail price	$2.25

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OFFER NO. 4.
Our Early Kitchen Garden.

This package includes the earliest Vegetables of the different classes, and is a splendid collection for a private garden. To any one sending $1.00 for the Weekly Blade one year, we will send this collection, postpaid. The regular retail price of this assortment is $1.05.

CABBAGE, Early Summer	$ .05
BEET, Early Blood	.05
PEAS, N. W. Premier	.10
LETTUCE, Early Challenge	.15
CUCUMBER, Early Frame	.05
TOMATO, First of All	.10
RADISH, Early White Turnip	.05
ONION, Early Barletta	.05
CORN, Shaker's Early	.05
CARROT, Early Horn	.05
MUSK MELON, Hackensack	.05
WATER MELON, Safeguard	.15
BEAN, Early Refugee	.05
TURNIP, Early Snowball	.05
SPINACH, Long Standing	.05
Retail price	$1.05

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OFFER NO. 5.
Our Combination Package.

This package, as will be noticed, includes a grand assortment of both Flower and Vegetable Seeds. In some of the packets are several different varieties of the same classes, so that in most instances the seeds will produce either a varied assortment of Flowers or some choice vegetables for early medium and late use. This collection will be sent, postpaid, to any one sending $1.00 for one year's subscription to the Weekly Blade.

21 Varieties of Vegetable Seeds.
18 Kinds of Flower Seeds.

1 PKT. MIXED TOMATOES—In this packet are the following three splendid tomatoes: Early Ruby, The Acme, Shenandoah	$ .15
1 PKT. STAR MIXED WATERMELONS—This packet contains seeds of the Ice King, Giant Southern, Florida Favorite	.15
1 PKT. PUMPKINS, MIXED—Seed of four good varieties	.10
1 PKT. RADISHES, MIXED—This mixture is made up of four splendid varieties	.10
1 PKT. LETTUCE, MIXED—A mixture of five curled and head varieties, early and late	.10
1 PKT. CUCUMBER, Garden Gem, the best for slicing	.15
1 PKT. BEET, Lightning, early turnip shaped variety	.10
1 PKT. PEAS, May's Midsummer, valuable for private use	.15
1 PKT. PANSIES, Prized Mixed, a celebrated collection made up from the following four varieties: Snow Queen, German Show, King of Yellows, Blue Prince	.20
1 PKT. ASTERS, Gem Mixed—This includes Snow White and Blue Danube	.15
1 PKT. SWEET PEAS, English Mixed, an assortment of 10 kinds	.10
1 PKT. PETUNIAS, Imperial Mixed—In this packet are the two famous varieties, Moonlight and Countess of Ellesmere	.10
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OFFER NO. 6—FLORAL FAVORITES.
Pansies, Poppies and Sweet Peas.

The following collection we have made up of the popular floral favorites of the past few years. No one who loves flowers should fail to have a bed of Pansies, Poppies and Sweet Peas. We will mail the entire collection, postpaid, to any person sending up $1.00 for one year's subscription to the Weekly Blade.

1 OZ. SWEET PEA, Grace May, pure white, very fine	$ .20
1 OZ. SWEET PEA, Minnie Keepers, delicate heliotrope and lavender	.10
1 OZ. SWEET PEAS, Firefly, bright scarlet, showy	.10
1 OZ. SWEET PEAS, Captain of the Blues, rich blue	.10
1 OZ. SWEET PEAS, California Giant Mixed, an assortment of colors	.20
1 PKT. PANSY, Swanley Blue, very light blue	.15
1 PKT. PANSY, Faust, black	.10
1 PKT. PANSY, Improved Snow Queen, pure white	.10
1 PKT. PANSY, Ocean Spray, blue, edged white	.20
1 PKT. PANSY, Royal Mixed, large flowers of all colrs	.25
1 PKT. POPPY, Danebrog, scarlet with white spots	.05
1 PKT. POPPY, Shirley, a beautiful strain of light colors	.10
1 PKT. POPPY, Paeonia Flowered, mammoth blossoms	.10
1 PKT. POPPY, Snowdrift, large double white flowers	.10
Retail price	$1.83

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FULL CULTURAL DIRECTIONS ON EVERY PACKET OF SEED.

ADDRESS ALL LETTERS TO

The Weekly Blade,
Toledo, Ohio.

Be sure to mention number of our offer.

RAIN ON THE ROOF.

Mr. Coates Kinney has made what he terms a "new and final revision" of his beautiful and famous poem, "Rain on the Roof," and has sent it to the Bellefontaine Examiner for publication. Addressing the editor, Mr. Thomas Hubbard, he says: "I send it to you, dear Tom, because the original was written when you and I were boys together. I lived in Bellefontaine—with you. On a transient visit from there to Greene and Warren counties, in a stroll, one June morning in 1849, from Spring Valley to Mt. Holly, I composed the poem. On my return to Bellefontaine I mailed it to The Columbian and Great West, Cincinnati, in which it was first published. It caught on. It struck a popular chord. It went through the newspaperdom of the English language, not so much because of its merit as because of its theme. It related a sweet experience of the people." The new version which Mr. Kinney thinks is much better than the old is as follows:

When the humid darkness gathered
Over all the starry spheres,
Flows and falls like sorrow softly
Breaking into happy tears,
Then how sweet to press the pillow
Of a cottage-chamber bed
And lie listening to the raindrops
On the low roof overhead.

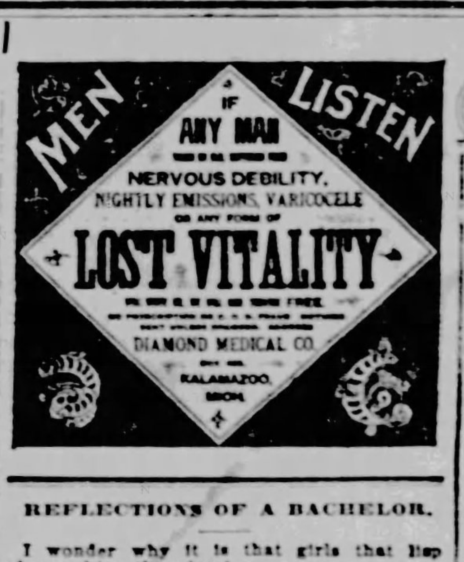
To the quick beats on the shingles
Answer echoes in the heart,
And dim, dreamy recollections
Into form and being start,
And the busy fairy, Fancy,
Weaves her air-threads, warp and woof,
As I listen to the patter
Of the light rain on the roof.

Now in memory comes my mother,
As she used, far summers gone,
Taking leave of little faces
That her loving look shone on;
And I feel that fond look on me
As I hear the old refrain
Here repeated on the shingles
By the patter of the rain.

Then my little seraph-sister,
With the wings and waving hair,
With her star-eyed cherub-brother—
A serene, angelic pair—
Glide around my wakeful pillow
With sweet praise or mild reproof,
As I shut my eyes and listen
To the soft rain on the roof.

And another comes, to thrill me
With her eyes bewitching blue,
And I mind not, musing on her,
That my heart she never knew;
I remember but to love her,
With a passion kin to pain,
And my quickened pulses quiver
To the patter of the rain.

Art hath naught of tone or cadence,
Naught of music's magic spell,
That can thrill the secret fountain
Whence the tears of rapture well
Like the weird nocturne of Nature,
That subdued, subduing strain
Which is played upon the shingles
By the patter of the rain.
—Coates Kinney.



REFLECTIONS OF A BACHELOR.

I wonder why it is that girls that lisp always kiss the nicest.

The more shocking a girl says a play is, the less she is shocked.

When a girl's knees get cold she isn't thinking about praying.

When a man makes his wife a present, unless it's Christmas or her birthday, she gets suspicious.

The more determined a man is to stay a bachelor, the more nice things he says about married life.

The average woman's idea of religion gets a wrench when she tries to teach her little child that she must love God more than she does.—New York Press.

HEAVEN OVERARCHES.

Heaven overarches earth and sea,
Earth-sadness and sea-bitterness.
Heaven overarches you and me;
A little while and we shall be—
Please God—where there is no more sea
Nor barren wilderness.

Heaven overarches you and me,
And all earth's gardens and her graves.
Look up with me, until we see
The daybreak and the shadows flee,
What though to-night wrecks you and me,
If so to-morrow saves?

Grown Rich Off Tips.

A Boston man who dines regularly at a prominent hotel was interested to discover the other day that his waiter, whom he has been tipping liberally all along, owns five tenement houses in the Hub, all clear of mortgages, and that his tax bill is considerably larger than his patron's.—Springfield Republican.

[illegible]

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All makes GOOD AS NEW. $5 to $15. New High Grade '96 models, guaranteed, $18 to $25. Must be closed out. Agents wanted. Write for particulars at once. B. P. Mead & Prentiss, Chicago, Ill.

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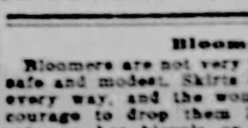
For longest list of words made from letters used in spelling the word **HONESTY**, we will give **$20**; for next 2 longest, **$10 each**; for next 4 **$5.00 each**; for next **10, $2.00 each**; and for next **20, $1.00 each**, and to each contestant who will send 11 words, we will send a piece of **LUCK MONEY**, highly valued by the Celestials and others, who believe it is lucky to always keep a piece about you. (As examples you will get such words as No, Nest, He, On, Ten). We give these valuable and handsome presents to get subscribers and introduce the Merry Maker, a comic illustrated paper, 16 pages, size Puck or Judge, brimfull of funny stories, witty sketches, and jokes up-to-date. With each list of words send **25 cts. silver or stamps** for the paper 6 months on trial. Winners of the special **prizes** published Feb. 20, and cash sent same day, and the **Luck Money** awarded same day list of words is received. Address **MERRY MAKER, Tribune Bldg. New York City, Prize Department.**

YOUR NAME on 50 Lovely Cards, perfect Gems, and [illegible] 1 Ring, Fountain Pen, Cuff Buttons, Collar Button, [illegible] Pin, Watch chain, etc., all with our new Popular Monthly [illegible] for 10c. and 2c. postage. JEWEL CARD CO., CLINTONVILLE, CONN.



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We will give one half-round Ring, 18k Rolled Gold plate warranted, to any one who will sell 1 doz. Indestructible Lamp Wicks (need no trimming) among friends at 10cts. each. Write us and we will mail you the Wicks. You sell them and send us the money and we will mail you the Ring. STAR CHEMICAL CO., Box 811, Centerbrook, Conn.

Bloomers.

Bloomers are not very pretty, but they are safe and modest. Skirts are abominations in every way, and the woman who hasn't the courage to drop them long enough for a spin on her bicycle or a day's mountain climbing would do well to remain in her rocking chair on the piazza and solace herself with her embroidery, novel and pug-dog.—Eleanor Kirk.

FOOTSTEPS AT THE DOOR.

We know the familiar voices,
Every near and dear one's call
Coming through the silent chambers,
Waking echoes in the hall;
So with instinct all unerring,
Ever strengthening more and more,
We can read the varied language
Of the footsteps at the door.

Grandpa's faltering tread, now heavy
With the weight of fruitful years,
Nearing yonder golden city—
Almost through this vale of tears;
Steadfast feet that never loitered,
Bravely going on before;
By and by we'll miss their music—
Precious footsteps at the door!

Then the patter of the children,
Happy darlings! out and in,
Like the butterflies and sunbeams,
With no thought of care or sin;
Little feet that need sure guiding
Past the pitfalls on the shore,
Lest they turn aside to mischief;
Blessed footsteps at the door.

Then the matron, glad and cheery,
Hears her good man drawing nigh;
And the children hear the mother,
As her busy footsteps fly;
Household music! We all hear it!
While we love it more and more,
And we hope to welcome with it
Angel footsteps at the door.

ONE BOOK A DAY.

THAT IS WHAT SOMEONE THINKS WE OUGHT TO READ.

The Trouble Is, We Are "Superficial" in Our Reading Now—Some Words About the Matter.

This is the season of the year when more time is given to the reading of books than at any other, and I may say, a greater desire felt for mental development. Of course this is largely due to the long hours when cold and darkness hold sway over the greater portion of the land, and out-of-door sports are fewer and less attractive. Where people revel in sunshine and flowers the whole year through, it makes less difference, and yet the habit of looking to the winter months as the time for reading books for other purposes than mere entertainment seems almost universal.

In a volume recently published, the author complacently talks about reading one book a day, saying that this would make an average of less than 400 books a year. I should hope so. Then he goes on to calculate that if one read at this rate for 50 years, he would not compass 20,000 volumes in all, leaving many unread that deserve reading and remembering!

Only think of the reading of 20,000 books! In this busy, workday world, the number or people who can find time and strength to read one book a day for a series of years is, indeed, very small, and even for those who are able to do so would be the greatest unwisdom. For there would be no opportunity for mental digestion, and this I take it, is as necessary, as to digest the food we put into the stomach for the preservation and renewal of physical strength.

Of course even the one who reads most must of necessity leave many good books unread. That does not matter. All around and about us lie hidden wonders of Nature of which we can learn but a small part in one life, or in many lives, and yet there is no necessity for shame or regret that we do not know every thing. The same thing is true of books. Some experienced bookman has estimated that there are nearly, if not quite, 30,000 new books appearing every year. In the Bibliotheque Nationale of Paris there are between three and four millions of volumes, and those in the library of the British Museum approach a million and a half. I am giving these figures roughly, for I have not looked up the matter lately, but I think they are nearly correct. In the face of such numbers, how absurd is the attempt to keep up with the literature of the day even, in any other way than through the medium of reviews.

In truth, the generality of people read too many books, rather than not enough, to have their reading serve any beneficial purpose. I believe it was Milton who said that the man who reads incessantly,

"And his reading brings not
A spirit and judgment equal or superior,
Uncertain and unsettled still remains,
Deep in books, but shallow in himself."

That is severe, but in truth it is what is the matter with most of us to-day. We cram ourselves either for amusement or to obtain knowledge, and create in our minds a perfect medley of facts and fancies without arrangement or connection, and serving us not at all when we are in most need. Much, too, runs through as a liquid passes through a sieve, and this would not so much matter if it did not weaken the power of retaining anything.

In the old days when books were fewer, people who liked to read, for the most part read to greater purpose than we of to-day. It is said that Robert Collyer, the great preacher, who began life as a blacksmith, had, in his early youth, but three books, which, with the Bible, he read over and over again, morning, noon and night. These were Robinson Crusoe, Pilgrim's Progress, and some book of Goldsmith's. Later he had Shakespeare, and upon this literary diet he fed until grown. When, years ago, I heard him preach, what attracted me most was the exceeding strength and simplicity of his language, the product, he declared, of this early study and familiarity with these few masterpieces in what Chaucer called a "well of English undefyled."

Of course, I am not recommending any such limitations to latter-day people, but there is now such a wealth of good books to choose from, that indiscriminate reading is the rule rather than the exception. Philip Gilbert Hamerton has said some excellent things in this direction, among them the following:

"It becomes a necessary part of the art of intellectual living, so to order our work as to shield ourselves, if possible, at least during a portion of our time, from the evil consequences of hurry. The whole secret lies in a single word—selection. The art is to select the reading which will be the most useful to our purpose * * * * and to skip judiciously. Whole libraries may be skipped in these days, when we have the results of them in our modern culture, without going over the ground again. * * * * The art is to skip all that does not concern us, while missing nothing that we really need."

It is useless always to try to do more in any direction than one has the power to accomplish well, and it is as true of reading as of anything else. And one ought to be as careful in choosing the books, the papers, or the magazines he will read as he is careful of the companions with whom he will spend his time. The intellect may be weakened, and what is far worse the soul, the real Self, be smirched as much by an immoral book, as by converse with an evil minded person, and sometimes more, because the defenses of the reader are down and the imagination is an easier prey. And the danger lies in the thoughts thus shaped, the pictures thus made, both of which, later on, may combine into influences that will finally lead to shame and sorrow.

"Ah, but I read those sensational stories and forget them," some one says.

If they aroused your interest you do not forget them. "If you gather apples in the sunshine," writes Emerson, "or hoe corn, and then retire within doors and shut your eyes and press them with your hand, you shall still see apples hanging in the bright light with boughs and leaves thereto, or the tasseled grass, or the corn-flags, and this for five or six hours afterwards. There lie the impressions on the retentive organ, though you know it not. So lies the whole series of natural images with which your life has made you acquainted, in your memory, though you know it not; and a thrill of passion flashes light on their dark chamber, and the active power seizes instantly the fit image, as the word of its momentary thought."

You can see then why it is we can none of us afford to let any but the thoughts which are of purity and strength find entrance and lodgment in our thought world.

EMILY S. BOUTON.

Seldom do we talk of ourselves with success. If I condemn myself, more is believed than is expressed; if I praise myself, much less.—Henry Home.

OUR COSY CORNER.

OLD WINTER'S COLD MAKES HOME FIRESIDES PLEASANT.

Let Us Gather Together and Talk Matters Over—Keep Hopeful and Courageous.

It is something in our favor if we conscientiously make good resolutions at the beginning of the New Year, even though we may not be able to keep them, and it helps us to keep these resolutions if we renew them as often as once a month. It is much easier for most of us to be good for an hour than for all day; for a week than for a month and for one month at a time than for twelve months, so if we give an hour at the close of each month and review our success, or failures in this matter of resolutions—take account of stock, to use a commercial phrase—and renew these resolutions for another month, I think we will all show a better record at the end of the year.

And if, after honestly trying to improve, we fail, as we undoubtedly shall many times, we can think over these lines by James Riley and take courage:

"It is well to know that attempted things
Are counted and crowned by the King of Kings."

Because you have no advantages of school or college, of wealth or influential friends, is no reason why you should not attempt to make improvement, spiritually and mentally, as well as in temporal affairs. There is not a farmer, or an artisan in the land who is not ambitious to add to his acres, his home or his bank account each year, but often it happens that these same men will think it absolutely impossible to help themselves along the lines toward a higher and better spiritual life. They leave "all such things" to the "clergymen and the women-folks."

Our former correspondent, "Peggie Clover" came to-day with some good ideas as usual:

Let me say to those thinking to begin the New Year by taking up some good course of reading do so by all means; don't wait any longer. We not only owe it to ourselves, but to our children, to try and keep pace with them. Do not let them think (some are too loyal to say it) "my mother was a good woman, a good cook but sadly behind the times."

I have finished the four years' Chautauqua course of reading and am proud of my diploma. I have a grown son (a college graduate) who is as proud of it as I am. You will be surprised to see what an interest the children will take in "mother's" lesson, and how easily you can find the time for it, if you try. I have been among strangers in a large city a good deal of the time for the past few months, and find many taking the same course. Many a pleasant hour I have passed, chatting with strangers on this subject. I was not only interested and pleased to meet them, but in one or two cases they proved to be the kindest and best of friends to me afterwards.

In the same mail with this letter came one from D. D. F. on somewhat the same subject:

Will the editor or some of the members please outline a course of reading for a young lady of 20, who can not go to school and has only a knowledge of reading, writing and arithmetic? She must educate herself, if educated at all, and as she is fond of reading I think if she would read the right literature she could accomplish a great deal. She is entirely ignorant of history, geography and grammar, but I do not think would have the heart to take those subjects up as studies. Her knowledge must come to her through her reading.

The editor has had it in her mind for some time to prepare a course of reading for The Blade readers, in answer to numerous inquiries, but the lack of time and press of other work has prevented her from doing so. She is now making arrangements for something of the kind which she trusts will meet with the approval of the Cozy Corner friends, and hopes to be able to present it to them before long.

For the young lady referred to in the above letter, Prescott's histories would doubtless be just the thing for her to read, as they are written in a very pleasing style, expressing actual facts in such a manner that one can hardly feel that they are not reading a beautiful story. Miss Strickland's "Queen of England" is another history that attracts most young girls.

If one who is averse to studying any branch of literature is fortunate to be introduced to that particular study through some fascinating story, or romance, it usually awakens a desire for further and, in some instances, more reliable information.

Mrs. L. comes to-day especially to see our Missouri friend, but we will all give her a welcome and profit by her remarks:

May I come in just long enough to tell the Missouri sister how sorry I am for her? Dear sister, be thankful God has been so merciful in sparing your dear ones to you; and remember the promise that "No good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly," also remember that these light afflictions are to work out for us a far better condition in the world which is to come. Cannot your children study at home and fit themselves for "positions of usefulness?"

Perhaps, God had some wise purpose in afflicting you, for which you will, in future years, sincerely thank Him, but

"Trust and obey, for there's no other way
To be happy in Jesus
But to trust and obey,"

and in every thing to give thanks.

Doubtless very many of us received as Christmas gifts dainty bits of embroidered linen in the shape of center pieces, doileys, etc., and if we did, we shall be very grateful to Mary for her very timely letter concerning the laundering of these lovely things:

About every dainty housekeeper has pieces of embroidered table linen of which she is especially careful. The work on some of them is so beautiful that it is well worth preserving. Borders of Honiton lace, flowers that look so natural they appear to have been dropped on the white cloth, geometrical designs done in color, or pure white silk, are some of the ways in which they are decorated, producing the most beautiful effects.

These articles are usually made of white linen; the embroidery is done with silks that are warranted not to fade, and they will retain their exquisite coloring as long as they last, if one is careful to launder them properly.

A few simple rules must be observed to insure success. One is never to put them in boiling water, and another is to never use any but the best soap. It is always better to wash them separately, instead of putting them in with the other clothes.

Prepare a good suds of warm soft water and Ivory soap, and wash them out quickly. Rinse twice, putting in a very little bluing, and a little boiled starch in the second rinse water. The latter gives them just enough stiffness to make them look like new, bringing out the soft satiny finish of the linen when it is ironed.

Iron the embroidery on the wrong side, then finish ironing on the right side. Fringed doilies should be well shaken before they are hung on the line to remove tangles in the fringe, and if necessary comb it out while still damp. Any kind of clean coarse comb may be kept for the purpose.

Alice Koller, the prize winner of the Fancy Work Club, has forestalled the usual spring misery by "moving" in December. The editor hopes she will soon realize her hope to be "settled and at home."

I was not a little surprised last night to see the announcement that I was the winner of the prize. Many thanks to the editor and her assistants for the same. I haven't had a Christmas present, so shall accept that as one. I did not know any Christmas, as we were all confusion from our recent moving, and we are not settled yet, although I am so tired. I have to sit down and be contented, knowing that my books are in a promiscuous tumble on beds, floors, etc., while windows remain uncurtained and undraped, and things in general need taming and toning down.

I have been an invalid for a number of years, and find it so hard to get rested. Particularly trying are the soft coal grates, as they send out such quantities of dust over everything, accompanied by smoke, that I feel I shall soon become a mechanical duster. However, we hope to remedy all that and other undesirable features in our new home before another winter. missed The Blade during our moving, and it seemed like a home friend last night.

The editor of the Cozy Corner wishes to acknowledge the receipt of a Christmas poem from Thomas G. Clay, which, unfortunately, was received by her too late to use this year. It will be placed in the "Christmas" envelope in her desk, and will be just as appropriate for next year, it being one of those poems that are not dependent upon any year for their merit, but are equally good at any time.

She also wishes to thank Betsey Baker for the kind words contained in her letter. It is such helps as these that gives her courage to continue in her work.

A Subscriber asks for a remedy for weak eyes. Her eyes fill with water when she reads or sews, or when she is unusually tired. She has worn glasses for eight years, and tried many remedies without satisfaction.

Elsie says that Charles Kingsley is the author of the lines about "helping lame dogs over stiles."

Several have desired to know whether Life's Gateways, Miss Bouton's new book, can be procured from the author. Certainly it can. Bound in cloth the book is $1; in paper 50 cents, and it is sent postpaid.

THE COOK'S DEPARTMENT.

"All human history attests
That happiness for man—the hungry sinner—
Since Eve ate apples, much depends on dinner."

Did you know that a little sugar in the water used for basting roast-meats adds greatly to their flavor, and that three tablespoonfuls of freshly made, Japan tea with a bit of nutmeg is a wonderful addition to an apple pie; that a cupful of sweet cream poured over baked beans an hour before they are done will greatly improve them, and that chocolate is much richer and better for the addition of a cup of strong coffee just before serving?

In an exchange the Cook finds the following anent an old English custom: "In England the last Sunday before Advent is called 'stir up Sunday,' and every one from the grandmother to the youngest child capable of holding a spoon, assists in stirring up a pudding to be eaten the following Christmas. Into this pudding each one stirs a new shilling, or six pence for the cook, and the mistress of the house puts in a ring and a thimble. The one who gets the ring in her piece will be married within the year, while she to whom the thimble comes will be a spinster all her life.

"This pudding is boiled the Monday following 'Stir up Sunday,' but is not opened till Christmas.

With this explanation is given a recipe for an English plum pudding, though whether it will be good if not made with all of the above observances deponent saith not:

English Plum Pudding.

Ten eggs, 3 loaves of stale bread, grated, 1½ lbs. finely choppen beef suet, 1 cupful of sugar, 1 glass of brandy, 1 nutmeg grated, 1 lb. each of raisins and currants and ½ lb. of citron, all chopped fine. Beat the eggs, add the sugar, nutmeg and brandy, beat all till very light. Mix the grated bread with the suet; put in the eggs, etc., and boil four hours in a buttered mold.

Thanksgiving Cake.

Cream, 1 lb. butter and 1½ lbs. sugar, add 1¼ lbs. sifted flour with 3 teaspoonfuls of baking powder, 12 beaten eggs, ¼ lb. blanched and chopped almonds, and 1 teacupful of chopped, preserved lemon peel; beat all till very smooth and light, and bake for 1½ hours in a moderate oven. When cold, ice.

Jelly Pie.

1 cupful of any tart jelly, the yolks of 4 eggs, 1 tablespoonful of butter and 1 cupful of thin cream. Bake with 1 crust in a quick oven and cover when cold with a meringue made from the whites of the eggs.

A DREAM.

O, it was but a dream I had
While the musicians played—
And here the sky and here the glad
Old ocean kissed the glade;
And here the laughing ripples ran,
And here the roses grew
That threw a kiss to every man
That voyaged with the crew.

Our silken sails in lazy folds
Dropped in the breathless breeze
As o'er a field of marigolds
Our eyes swam o'er the seas;
While here the eddies lisped and purled
Around the island's rim
And up from out the underworld
We saw the mermen swim.

And it was dawn and middle day
And midnight—for the moon
On silver rounds across the bay
Had climbed the skies of June—
And here the glowing, glorious king
Of day ruled o'er the realm,
With stars of midnight glittering
About the diadem.

The sea gull reeled on languid win
In circles round the mast;
We heard the songs the sirens sing
As we went sailing past,
And up and down the golden sands
A thousand fairy throngs
Flung at us from their flashing hand
The echoes of their songs.

—James Whitcomb Riley.

BLADE FANCY WORK CLUB.

Receives Information Concerning Wood Carving, From Marie.

Miss Peggy Clover entered the club room this morning, with some suggestions for various fancy articles, and a question or two which the editor submits, hoping some of the members will be able to answer them.

"Will some one tell me what should be used as a finish to the edge of a centre piece for dining table, made of pink or ruby plush?

"I have read that they are 'later' than those of linen with silk embroidery, for course dinners, and should think on state occasions, with white silk embroidered cloth and napkins, the change would be pretty, but do not know how to finish the edge.

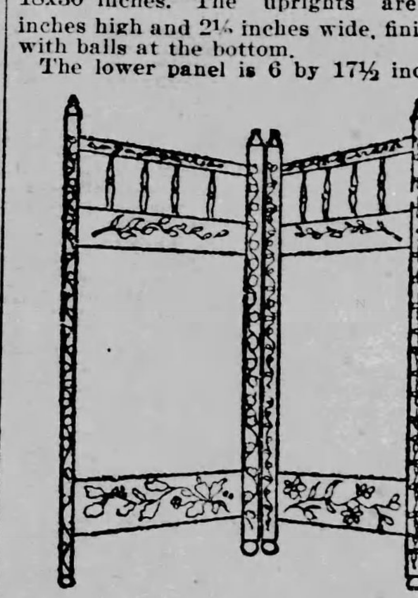
"Also, what is the latest style of fancy parlor or reception chair? Are the white and gold ones as much in favor as they were?

According to promise, Marie described some pieces of wood-carving for the benefit of the club, beginnig with a

Screen.

This screen is of cherry, and forms the frame for two large oil paintings, 18x30 inches. The uprights are 53 inches high and 2¼ inches wide, finished with balls at the bottom.

The lower panel is 6 by 17½ inches;



the upper ones 3½ by 17½ inches, and 2 by 17½ inches with 4 inch spindles between.

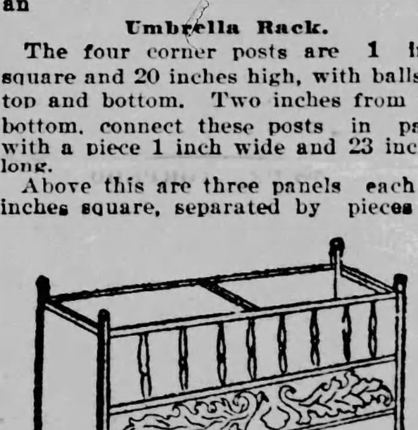
One side is carved with dog-wood, the other with holly on the cross pieces, and English ivy on the up-rights.

The next piece described by her was an

Umbrella Rack.

The four corner posts are 1 inch square and 20 inches high, with balls at top and bottom. Two inches from the bottom, connect these posts in pairs with a piece 1 inch wide and 23 inches long.

Above this are three panels each 7 inches square, separated by pieces 1



inch wide. Above these is another piece 1 inch wide, and 23 inches long, and a panel 3 inches wide of the same length

Still above this, is a row of spindles 2½ inches long, between two narrow pieces.

The four panels should be carved and "set in" at least ½ inch. At each end are three pieces 1 inch wide and 8 inches long placed at the top, bottom and middle heighth of the rack, which is divided into two compartments by means of pieces similarly placed crosswise of its centre.

The bottom of the rack is two Japanned tins.

For a "finish" she told us how to make a pretty

Stand.

The top is 12 inches square, and the shelf 10 inches; the edges of both being beveled.

On the shelf carve a design of water-lilies in deep relief, and on the top outline the design with a veiner and use the punch or malting-tool on the background without lowering.

The legs are 1 inch in diameter, turned, 27 inches long.

A vote of thanks was given to Marie, who promised to spend another day with us very soon, and the editor announced that Ex-School ma'am would entertain the club next week with a description of various articles of home decoration.

It is the purpose of the editor to give a sufficient variety in this column to

suit all tastes, and the series of wood-carving hints will be alternated with descriptions of other fancy work, in order that those who are not especially interested in the art, may not lose interest in the club.

Series of articles along other lines will be very acceptable, to be used in the same manner, one member entertaining the club each week.

It Always Does.

"What a funny thing," said Dora, with her little gurgling laugh, and she looked at David over the newspaper. "Here's the London Spectator prints a long piece asking 'Have Bees a Conscience?' "

David looked thoughtful.

"Of course bees have a conscience," he said, his mind hastily reverting to boyhood days; "or at least they have something that stings."

Pa Beat Willie.

"What was all the noise in your house last night, Willie?" asked the lady who lives next door.

"We had a cane rush. Pa had the cane and I did the rushing, but pa beat me," answered Willie, as he rubbed the seat of his trousers tenderly [illegible]

WOMAN'S WORK

IN THE VARIOUS FIELDS INTO WHICH SHE HAS ENTERED.

Curiosities of Social Precedence in England—Items of Interest Gathered From Many Quarters.

To grow is to wait and to watch and to pray,
Seeking in silence, by night and by day.
Law is the secret, and truth is the way.

Thy life is to be, to do, and to bless;
Immortal the good and true happiness—
He doeth the most who loveth the best.

—Josephine Wolcott.

Mrs. Belva A. Lockwood, of Washington, who was one of the delegates from the United States to the second International Congresses, held at Geneva, Switzerland, in September last, to consider the administration of public charities and the protection of children, has made an instructive report to the department of State. Ten nationalities were represented by about sixty-five delegates. The Congress lasted six days, during which time many valuable papers were presented and ably discussed. Among the important topics considered were the education of abandoned children and the children of vicious parents, and the best methods of relieving the poor so as to make the relief permanent and to diminish instead of increasing pauperism and crime. It is to be hoped that a full report will be published.

"I love you, dearest girl!" he said.
"Oh, be mine!"
She handed him her card. It read:
"Ida Kline."

—Chicago Tribune.

One of the curiosities of social precedence in England is the ill-defined position of the wives of the archbishops and bishops—ladies who can under no circumstances claim to be regarded as the better half. They are entirely ignored, officially speaking—a survival, probably, of the pre-Reformation times, and they are debarred from any participation whatsoever in the rank or precedence of their husbands. Thus, while the archbishops of Canterbury and York outrank every peer of the realm, and are addressed as "Your Grace," in the same manner as dukes, whom they precede, their wives are compelled to yield precedence to the wife of every knighted grocer or London draper, and are addressed merely as "Mrs." The wives of the bishops of London and Durham, and in fact, of every other prelate of the Church of England, are in the same curious position. It is surprising that this somewhat paradoxical state of affairs, to which Queen Elizabeth is recorded in history to have called the attention of her advisers, should have been permitted to remain unchanged down to the present day.

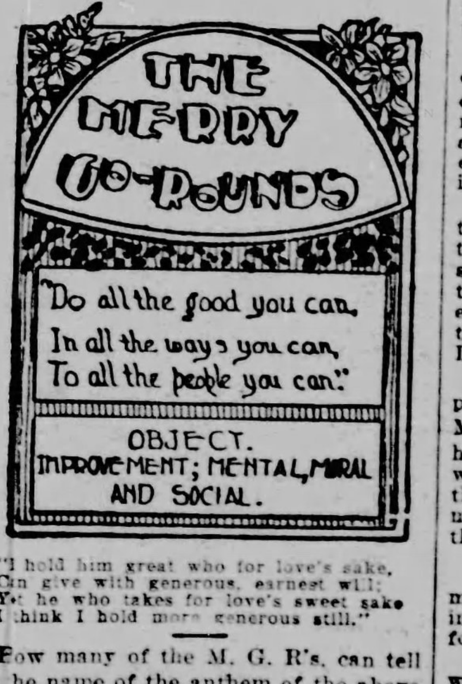
The secret of success is concentration; wherever there has been a great life or a great work that has gone before. Taste everything a little, look at everything a little, but live for one thing. Anything is possible to a man who knows his end, and moves straight for it, and for it alone.—Olive Schreiner.

Visiting cards seem anciently to have been known by various names. Mme. D'Arblay in her "Diary" uses the term "name card." They were often spoken of as "tickets." A lady writer of the last century enters in her journal, under date November 16, 1799, when at Hanover: "At six Mme. de Busche called to take me to pay my visits. We only dropped tickets." In Scott's "St. Ronan's Well," Capt. Jekyl of the Guards introduces himself by presenting his "ticket." A very large collection of eighteenth century cards of various kinds—shop-bills, invitation, trade, funeral and other cards and certificates—was formed by Miss Banks, the daughter of the famous naturalist, Sir Joseph Banks, who sailed round the world with Captain Cook. This collection is now in the print room of the British Museum; and the visitor who looks through this very interesting gathering of the flotsam and jetsam of the printing press will find many valuable and curious specimens of the visiting cards of long ago.

The holiest of all holidays are those
Kept by ourselves in silence and apart;
The secret anniversaries of the heart,
When the full river of feeling overflows.

—Longfellow.

Miss Elizabeth M. Clark, or, as she is known in the Salvation Army, "Captain Clark," is a rather remarkable young woman quite apart from her connection with the Salvationists. She is a great-niece of Bishop Clark, of Rhode Island, the presiding bishop of the Protestant Episcopal House of Bishops, and is the daughter of a clergyman of the Dutch Reformed church. She prepared for college at Wellesley, spent three years at Bryn-Mawr, and then went abroad and entered the University of Zurich, where she devoted herself to the study of Teutonic philology. While there she met General Booth, and had her interest aroused in the Army, although she did not join it until some time later. She does editorial work on Army publications in addition to her other duties.



"I hold him great who for love's sake,
Can give with generous, earnest will;
Yet he who takes for love's sweet sake
I think I hold more generous still."

How many of the M. G. R's, can tell us he name of the anthem of the above lines, entitled "Meek Receiving," and how many agree with the sentiment?

Wilson Poorbaugh and A. L. Davis wrote some time ago asking the requirements for membership in the M. G. R. An answer was given in this column when these letters were received, and Miss Prudence hopes that they will accept that and not wait, before coming again for a private answer, as she has so little time at her disposal for personal letters.

They will be welcome, and judging from their letters of inquiry, they will be able to send some very interesting letters, and there will be no danger for them, of Miss Prudence suggesting more attention to their spelling books, as both letters were perfect in that respect, which fact places them high in the estimation of the Chaperone.

Badges can be procured only from The Toledo Blade office—price 50c.

Virginia, Rover, Portia and Ethel H. Gregg are introduced to the company this bright winter morning, and invited to be seated near our comfortable fireside and make themselves at home. Pansy leaves her housekeeping duties long enough to send best wishes for the New Year to her frineds of the M. G. R. She is endeavoring to direct her life by our motto, and in addition to "keeping house" and making a home for her father, she is studying the Pitman system of stenography. She would like to hear from any others who are taking this method. She sends especial greeting to Country Rose, Invalid and Forsaken and says that she, in company with Mildred, enjoyed a long ride in a big "bob-sled" recently.

Deacon, of Missouri, complains that he has neither sister nor brother to share his joys and sorrows. It is very sad, and the only way in which he can receive compensation will be to find some other boy's sister (or brother) to share them.

[illegible] letter about her home—where she can always have an inspiring view of Mt. Hood and the Pacific Ocean. Come again, Sissy, and tell us something particular about your surroundings; we shall be glad to hear from you.

Etna asks for an invitation to join New England Girl in keeping "Old Maids' Hall," and promises to kill all the "skunks," as she has learned to shoot. Surely she would be a valuable companion in some localities.

Little Meddlesome thinks that: "To a certain extent our lives are what we make them, and I have no doubt but that many a misguided person could make their lives very different from what they are, by faithfully observing the M. G. R. motto."

Susy asks Miss Prudence "if the experiences of Scarlet Wing and Addie," is her "idea of the sequel to a M. G. R. correspondence." It isn't just what was anticipated when the correspondence question was under advisement, but we cannot tell what will be the outcome of such an arrangement and in this instance, we all hope that there may never be occasion for regret upon the part of either of the most interested parties.

Southerner asks N. E. Girl: "Isn't it amusing that we boys so thoughtlessly delude ourselves with the idea that our ideal would too gladly accept our proposal of marriage to her?"—very amusing indeed.

Brunette writes that she expects to spend the most of the winter evenings at home "writing, reading, studying and working." No doubt but she will feel when the winter is over, that it has been a profitable one to her.

Dryad has had "several pleasant (?) meetings with his striped excellency when he was breaking some mother hen's heart by making a midnight call upon her young family," and therefore she can sympathize with N. E. Girl.

Lillie is studying music this winter, and would like to know if others are also.

Eva Richards shows good sense in coming the second time; had once been refused admission. She very wisely corrected the mistakes that she made and now comes with a beautifully written letter. Come again, dear.

Budd, Ill., tells us that there is a "crow roost" near his barn where a large flock of crows gather about sunset and remain till sunrise. "They make lots of noise," he says, and we can well believe him, for crows are usually noisy neighbors to have, though some people do not object to them as much as others.

Bonnie Burnie sends a New Year's greeting:

Once more I lift the latch and enter the room where many boys and girls are comfortably seated before a cheerful fire. Thanks, Missourian, for offering me a chair, but I am going over by West Virginia as he wants us to tell in what respects we would have boys improve in. Maybe he does not need improving (you know I'm not acquainted with him), but in the general run of boys (as well as girls) there's chance for improvement.

In my opinion we need to improve in being true to those who trust us. Too many make promises and vows which are soon forgotten. Boys, never ask a girl to marry you unless you mean it, and girls, never say "yes" unless you mean it from the very depths of your heart.

For the enclosed "greeting," in Bonnie Burnie's letter, Miss Prudence returns thanks.

Dixie asks if she will be welcome, if she returns after a year's absence. Certainly, come as often as you can. Time does not change our feelings toward our friends, unless to make them nearer to us.

Rover, a new member from Nebraska, gives the following ideas on the November subject, which though very late, we give because of their peculiarity. If Rover really means what he says, Miss Prudence fears his experience has been an unpleasant one to have caused him to deduce from it such pessimistic theories:

In regard to the November question it seems that all have nearly the same idea, but it seems to me that the opposite of all this is necessary. If you will look over the lines of the most successful business men, you will find heartlessness, dishonesty, and in fact anything that will tend to put another dollar into the "successful business man's" pocket. Honesty and integrity are not regarded as necessary by the most successful business men. Fear of the law makes many men appear honest.

The question was, what is necessary for a "successful" and "satisfactory" business life. It would not seem that one who believed that heartlessness and dishonesty were necessary, could have a "satisfactory" life even though it might be successful as far as laying up wealth was concerned.

Portia, a new mmember from the Empire State, proves by this extract from her letter that her name is well chosen:

In my first letter may I be permitted to say, as a sort of reply to West Virginian, that, to the majority of young ladies, a young man who is true to himself and to the One who created him is the one who is the most perfect in their eyes.

Pussy sends a question to be discussed in the "Teachers' Club" suggested by Miss Prudence. Until other arrangements are made, answers to this and other questions of interest to teachers, may be sent to the M. G. R. Here is his question

What do the M. G. R.'s who are teachers think of a compulsory education law? From my experience in the schools, I have come to the conclusion that such a law will do more toward elevating the standard of education than any other one thing, especially in Indiana.

Pussy also asks Miss Prudence to explain "the meaning of the shape of the M. G. R. badge, and of the figure that holds the letters." Have any of the wearers of this badge ever thought that there might be a design in this arrangement? If so, we will wait to hear from them.

Elaine, who has been absent for many moons, comes today with greetings to all and especially good wishes for our married M. G. R.'s. She says:

Will some of the M. G. R.'s who wrote during the summer of 1895 come again? It was then that I under another "nom," joined the circle, and as I missed the letters for a long time, most of the members I now see are strangers to me.

I think that all patriotic Americans should be in deepest sympathy with the Cuban rebels.

I hope New England Girl will soon describe her "model man." My "model man" is chivalrous like the Chevalier Bayard, "sans puer et sans reproche," noble and good like Sir Philip Sidney. I see you smile as you whisper that this is the ideal of some romantic school girl; but let me assure you I'm not at all sentimental.

How many of the M. G. R.'s are addicted to "hero worship." I am not, but if I were, my two favorite heroes would be Abraham Lincoln and the kindly, gentle Sir Philip.

Miss Prudence, can not we prevail upon the "powers that be" to give us more space in the paper when The Blade's new presses are put into use? I am sure all the M. G. R.'s join with me in requesting that we be alowed two columns or at least one column and a half.

Dear M. G. R.'s, let us rally our forces; start in the new year with energy and the firm purpose and desire to make our department better in every way than it has ever been. Let us be loyal to our motto and our circle; we all want to make this year the most memorable for good work of any in our organization's history. If, in this way, we express our appreciation of Miss Prudence's kindness and work for us, we may feel that we have tried to repay her, in some measure, for her many efforts in our behalf.

The Chaperone thanks Green Mountain Boy, Ethan Allen, Elaine, Pussy, and Virginia for kind words of encouragement, good wishes and other nice things they have sent her for her New Year presents and she returns every good wish, with interest and hopes to become better acquainted and better in every way from our correspondence [illegible]

Our Young Folks.

PRUDENCE'S 'TOWER'

VISITS MASSACHUSETTS, RHODE ISLAND AND CONNECTICUT.

She Goes to See the Ruins of an Old Indian Fort and a Cemetery Over 200 Years Old.

(Continued.)

I think a "change of pen" is sometimes as beneficial as a "change of air," so I have asked Miss Sieg to describe our visit in her own bright fashion:

It was with pleasure I welcomed Miss Prudence to my New England home. The first morning I took her for a drive to show her the country and she thought the poet Whittier must have been in this region when he wrote Among the Hills, for there are not many places here where one can travel far without going up or down one or more hills.

The farms are small, irregular, hilly, and, for the most part, rocky, and stone walls are more numerous than fences. Many of the farm houses were built in the "good old days of yore," hence are large, strong and old-fashioned; near some the old well curbs still stand, but more for ornaments than use.

Coming to an old, forsaken school house, I stopped, and Miss Prudence, for the first time, realized what Whittier meant by these lines:

"Around it still the sumach grows,
And blackberry vines are running.
Within, the master's desk is seen,
Deep scarred by raps official;
The warping floor, the battered seats,
The jackknife's carved initial."

Next I took her to a surveyors' camp on the top of the highest mountain in this part of the state, which isn't far from our house.

Through their telescope we saw the city of Boston with Bunker Hill Monument towering above all; the harbor beyond with its steamers and sailing vessels; the city of Springfield and the mountains of Vermont and New Hampshire.

After dinner we attended an old-time "quilting bee," followed by a husking in the evening, both of which were for Miss Prudence's special benefit.

In the morning we went into the woods where there used to be an Indian camp and where the old stone mortar, in which all the Indians for miles around used to grind their corn, now remains. Then we visited the spot on which a garrison house formerly stood into which the people used to flee to escape the Indians.

Next we viewed the ruins of an old Indian fort, after which I showed her some grave stones in our cemetery over 200 years old. Some of the epitaphs are equal to those we read about.

Thence southward to a stream in which are two large circular stones (the smallest being eight or ten feet in diameter), the mill wheels of the first grist mill in this section. Before this was built men had to carry their grain on horseback a distance of 16 miles fording several streams.

Upon our return I ushered Miss Prudence into our large old-fashioned kitchen, which in our absence had been fitted up in old-time style with queer chairs, settees, dressers.

An old matchlock hung above the enormous fireplace, in which was a

OLD INDIAN CAMP.

crane filled with pots and kettles, with andirons that Miss Prudence couldn't lift, and a large tin bake oven on the hearth in front.

At one side were flat-irons with openings for either hot coals or a hot piece of iron; from poles next the ceiling above the fire place, hung strings of dried apples, pumpkins and peppers. Near by was a little tin stove with a wooden frame and handle, which had been to church a good many times before there were stoves in churches; an old tin lantern pierced with holes to let forth the candle light; a clock reaching from floor to ceiling, a stand on which were tallow candles and snuffers, and a large wooden chest which used to serve as a trunk.

When Miss Prudence had satisfied her curiosity, the door suddenly opened and in came about twenty young people clad in the clothes of their grandparents (to show Miss Prudence the styles), among whom Miss Prudence recognized George and Martha Washington, Benj. Franklin, etc., all of whom partook of a dinner consisting of baked beans, brown bread, pumpkin pie and Indian pudding.

The dishes, too, had all seen younger days, and Miss Prudence, after making several desperate attempts to eat with her two-tined fork, finally resorted to her knife and pewter spoon, saying she didn't wonder our grandparents ate with their knives.

She actually confessed it was the first time she ever ate from a pewter plate 200 years old.

After dinner all departed at candle light, promising to come and escort Miss Prudence to the station in the morning, but not until she had promised to come again.

My next hostess (and a very charming one she proved to be) was Miss Mary E. Kiernan, or "Little Rhody," who made me forget the smallness of her native state in the breadth of her hospitality.

My first evening with her was spent in pleasant conversation, interspersed with music, and next morning we went by train to Newport.

Securing a carriage at the station, we "took in" the ten mile Ocean Drive, and on our way saw all the places of interest on Bellevue avenue—the old Stone Mill famous in history; the marble palace of W. K. Vanderbilt, and the residences of many other New York people; visiting besides, the three bathing beaches, Easton's, Bailey's and Purgatory! We took dinner at the Ocean House, visited the new Armory, and took an afternoon train for home.

The next morning we descended upon Providence, and visited the new marble State House now being built, and the new Normal School. Taking the electric car to Roger Williams Park, the music of the Merry Go Round there reminded us both of our own circle. We visited the Betsey Williams cottage, where we saw many antiquities, and then went to the Museum, where there were some beautiful paintings on exhibition.

Taking the cars back to the business portion of the city, we inspected the Court House, dined at the Narragansett Hotel and took the boat for home. I enjoyed the visit very much, and left with many promises of another visit soon.

Connecticut was the next state in order, and here I was entertained by Miss Helen Irving, at her home in West Mystic.

Arriving there on an afternoon train the young lady met me, and proposed a drive about the broad nicely shaded streets of the town, before going to her home on the west side of the Mystic river, which divides the town into two parts each part having a station and postoffice for the convenience of the inhabitants.

During our drive she pointed out to me the Machine Company, Spool Factory, Witch-Hazel Factory, Globe Works, Woolen Mills, and the factory where Packer's Tar Soap is made.

We drove up Pequot avenue, over [illegible] Indian wigwams once abounded, and passed the monument erected to the memory of Capt. John Mason, who conducted the fearful massacre that practically exterminated the Pequot tribe.

We arrived at Sunnyside, her home on Pleasant View Hill, in time for an introduction to "father and mother and brothers Jack and George," before we were summoned to the tea-table.

An early morning tramp over the hills followed by an inspection of the pets of the household, (including a baby alligator;) gave us appetites for breakfast, and after that important meal was despatched we took the steamer "Summer Girl" for Watch Hill, a summer resort a few miles east of Mystic.

Nothing would do but that I must try the merits of the merry-go-round in the park, so I mounted a sad-looking camel, while Miss Irving chose a goat, who seemed to be meditating on the scarcity of tomato cans in that locality, and we went round and round until we were both dizzy, deciding as we dismounted, that we knew of a better M. G. R. than that!

We dined at one of the hotels in the park, and returning home by an afternoon boat spent the evening in a manner peculiarly pleasing to me, Mr. Jack Irving bringing his violin into the parlor and playing some very delightful music, in part of which I was able to accompany him on the piano, a task that I especially enjoy.

The next day, my entertainers, with a party of invited guests, took me for a sail in their yacht Vixen. I am not much of a yachts-woman, but I enjoyed the ride and admired the skilful manipulations of our "crew" which consisted of Miss Helen and brother, Jack.

We landed at Groton, climbed the monument, and visited Ft. Griswold, where Sol Ledyard so bravely fell in defense of the town against Arnold's soldiers.

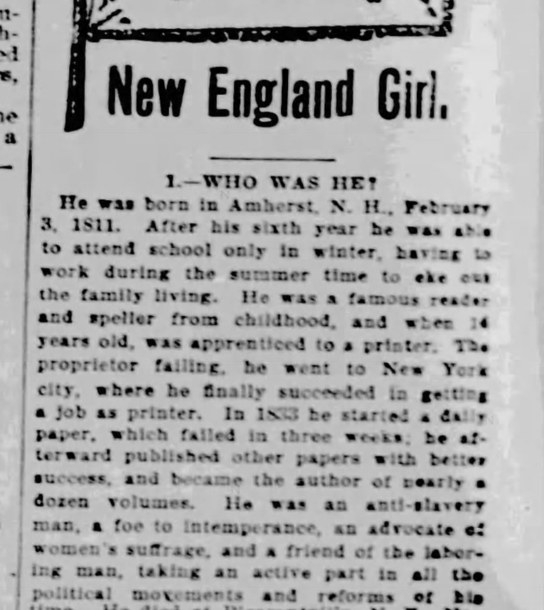
We then crossed over to New London, and after visiting numerous places of interest in the Old Harbor Town, and partaking of luncheon at a restaurant, we took our departure.

On the way home, we sailed around the "White Squadron" which was lying at anchor in the Sound, near Mystic, and boarded the battleship Indiana, where we were received very courteously by her officers.

It required all my native firmness to withstand the inducements to "stay longer" that were held out to me by Miss Helen, but knowing that the greater part of my journey was still before me, and that "tempus was fugiting right along" (as the old gentleman said when his college bred son "talked Latin" to him.) I turned a deaf ear to her persuasive voice and took the train for New Jersey that afternoon.

(To Be Continued.)

OUR WONDER COLUMN.



1.—WHO WAS HE?

He was born in Amherst, N. H., February 3, 1811. After his sixth year he was able to attend school only in winter, having to work during the summer time to eke out the family living. He was a famous reader and speller from childhood, and when 14 years old, was apprenticed to a printer. The proprietor failing, he went to New York city, where he finally succeeded in getting a job as printer. In 1833 he started a daily paper, which failed in three weeks; he afterward published other papers with better success, and became the author of nearly a dozen volumes. He was an anti-slavery man, a foe to intemperance, an advocate of women's suffrage, and a friend of the laboring man, taking an active part in all the political movements and reforms of his time. He died at Pleasantville, N. Y., November 29, 1872, one of the most noted men of his century.

NEW ENGLAND GIRL.

2.—RHOMBOID.

X X X X
 X X X X
  X X X X
   X X X X

Across: 1.—A member of O. W. C.
2.—The essential oil of roses.
3.—Belonging to you.
4.—Booty.

Down: 1.—A vowel.
2.—Behold.
3.—A pen for swine.
4.—Above.
5.—Pertaining to us.
6.—A prefix denoting repetition.
7.—A diphthong.

ARION.

3.—BIBLICAL PUZZLE.

My first is in Genesis ii:14; my second is in Genesis ix:14; my third is in Genesis iii:14; my fourth is in Genesis ii:4; my fifth is in Genesis ii:16; my sixth is in Deuteronomy xxviii:6; my seventh is in Genesis ii:16; my eighth is in Genesis iii:10; my ninth is in Genesis x:10.

Each word is supposed to be used in the reference given the first time that it appears in the Bible and the nine form the prayer of a very wicked man.

C. M. B.

4.—ARITHMETICAL PROBLEM.

Having six marbles each one inch in diameter, what is the inside diameter of a hollow globe that will exactly enclose the six marbles?

N. HOLT.

5.—QUERY.

Who can tell us something about the Pauchonti tree?

PANSY.

6.—QUOTATION.

Who wrote:

"I dare do all that may become a man;
Who dares do more, is none."

W. P. E.

Answers to Puzzles of January 7.

1.—Harriett Martineau.
2.—Ant, tip, odes; antipodes.
3.—23,1428 feet.
4.—Words forming criss-cross: S, Guy, Rabbi, trestle, stirrup, quilt, ebb, E; central, Subscribe.

Alexander Pope wrote:

"Order is heaven's first law, and this confest,
Some are, and must be, greater than the rest."

Answer to Query of December 21, sent by Dy:

During the early settlement of New York, most of the people did little but to deal in the fur trade with the Indians; but later, in order to get them to till the soil, the New Netherland company offered prizes to its members who would bring out fifty persons as permanent settlers to the colony, each prize consisting of a tract of land lying along the Hudson river between New York and Albany, with sixteen miles frontage on the river. There were about twenty such estates given as prizes, ten on each side of the river; their proprietors were called patroons, and each held a sort of court of his own; in fact, their government and manners much resembled the feudal system of old Europe.

Chat.

Correct solutions were received from N. E. Girl, Pansy, J. C. N., Marley Cranford, N. Holt, Arion, C. M. B., Madge Wylde, Stephen, Lucy M. Young, and W. P. E.

Puzzles were accepted from Uncle Joe, Pansy, Arion, C. M. B., Madge Wylde, and W. P. E.

Uncle Joe, J. C. N.: You are both very welcome, and O. W. C. hopes to see you frequently.

N. Holt: Thank you very much for the solutions.

Arion: You sent an excellent list this week.

C. M. B.: The Schoolmistress has no trouble with your writing, and is glad you have made such a good New Year's resolution.

Madge Wylde: Your contribution was accepted, barring the queries, to which you omitted to send answers.

Stephen: Glad you rise to a point of order occasionally.

W. P. E. says: "The solution of many problems is like two people traveling from this place to Chicago; one goes via Kansas City, the other via St. Louis; but they both get to Chicago. So with No. 4 of the 17th; perhaps friend Holt and I differ in form of solution, but we both 'get there just the same.' "

News of the Week.

The Blade is a newspaper for free American citizens, and under the above head, aims to give first, those events which are the history and progress of the world for the week—those which every intelligent man needs to know and should know; second, all important political events; and lastly, the leading minor occurrences that possess interest to every educated and thinking reader.

MONETARY CONFERENCE.

The Results of the Discussions at Indianapolis.

Indianapolis, Jan. 14.—The closing session of the monetary conference was the most interesting of the entire series. The battle for and against the idea of a monetary commission was fought out on the floor of the convention; but the result was the same as that of the long wrangle in the resolutions committee. The plan won by a heavy majority, after a most exciting debate.

For a time it looked as though the convention might break up in a row. Representative Walker, of Massachusetts, is a very choleric old gentleman, and his face took on the hue of rare roast beef with the intensity of his objurgations against the plan desired by the majority. He is evidently a man who dearly loves to have his own way, and he did not take kindly to defeat. He considered, apparently, that the chairman of the House committee on banking and currency is a bigger man than one merely engaged in trade and commerce, and that the convention should accept his ipse dixit without hesitation or objection.

Representative Fowler, of New Jersey, was of the same mind as his Congressional colleague, but far more politic in expressing his views. While Mr. Walker launched out into bitter invective of the majority plan, Mr. Fowler introduced a substitute, which he advocated in a strong speech. The convention, however, was not composed of politicians, but of business men. Having made up their minds as to the best and most businesslike course, they were not to be turned from that purpose. The two Congressmen were obliged to submit, but they went down with banners flying.

Mr. Hanna then called on M. E. Ingalls, of Cincinnati, to read the report of the committee on resolutions. The report follows:

The Resolutions.

This convention declares that it has become absolutely necessary that a consistent, straightforward and deliberately planned monetary system shall be inaugurated, the fundamental basis of which should be:

First, That the present gold standard should be maintained. Second, that steps should be taken to secure the ultimate retirement of all classes of United States notes by a gradual and steady process, and so as to avoid injurious contraction of the currency or disturbance of the business interests of the country, and that until such retirement provision should be made for a separation of the revenue and note issue departments of treasury. Third, that a banking system be provided which should furnish credit facilities to every portion of the country, and a safe and elastic circulation, especially with a view of securing such a distribution of the loanable capital of the country as will tend to equalize the rates of interest in all parts thereof. For the purpose of effectively promoting the above objects,

Resolved, That fifteen members of this convention be appointed by the chairman to act as an executive committee while this convention is not in session, with full powers of this convention. The executive committee shall have the power to increase its membership to any number not exceeding 45, and five members thereof shall at all times constitute a quorum of said committee. The executive committee shall have special charge of the collection, receipt and disbursement of contributions voluntarily made for all purposes; shall have power to call this convention together again when and where it may seem best to said committee to do so, and said committee shall continue in office with power to fill vacancies until discharged at a future meeting of this convention.

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of this executive committee to endeavor to procure at the special session of Congress which it is understood will be called in March next, legislation calling for the appointment of a monetary commission by the President to consider the entire question, and to report to Congress at the earliest day possible.

Or, failing to secure the above legislation, they are hereby authorized and empowered to select a commission of eleven members, according to the rules and plans set forth in the suggestions submitted to the convention by Mr. Hanna, of Indianapolis, as follows:

Article 1. The commission shall consist of eleven members, to be named by the executive committee appointed by this convention. The executive committee shall have power to fill vacancies in the commission as they may occur.

Article 2. The first meeting of the commission shall be held at a time and place to be designated by the executive committee of this convention in a call to be issued therefor; and at such meeting the committee shall organize by the election of such officers and the adoption of such rules and by-laws for its own government as may be agreed by a majority of its members; and thereafter it shall be governed by such rules and by-laws subject to these articles.

Article 3. All rules and by-laws of the committee, and all its proceedings, shall be directed towards the accomplishment of the objects of its creation, which is to make a thorough investigation of the monetary affairs and needs of this country, in all relations and aspects, and to make appropriate suggestions as to any evils found to exist, and the remedies therefor; and no limit is placed upon the scope of such inquiry or the manner of conducting the same, excepting only that the expenses thereof shall not exceed the sums set apart for such purpose by the executive committee.

Article 4. The executive committ of this convention shall use so much of the voluntary contributions made to it as may be available for that purpose to defray all necessary expenses of the commission, and shall notify the commission from time to time of the amount so available, in order that it may regulate its expenditures accordingly, and no liability shall attach to said committee or to this convention beyond the amount so notified.

Article 5. When the labors of this commission have been completed as far as practicable, the executive committee, if it deems it advisable, shall issue a call to bring this convention together again at a time and place designated, and at the meeting so convened the commission shall make report of its doings and suggestions in such manner and form as it shall deem best adapted to present the same to this convention and its members for action; and if legislation is deemed impossible shall accompany such report with a draft of such bill or bills providing for such legislation.

Resolved, That all resolutions and communications as to methods of currency reform which have been presented to this convention be referred to such committee when formed.

Mr. Walker's Bombshell.

After reading of the resolutions, J. H. Walker, of Massachusetts, chairman of the committee on banking and currency, was recognized, and hurled a bombshell into Camp Peaceful. He said:

"The Congress of the United States, through the last Congress, deferred action upon any reform of the finance and banking system of this country to the present Congress, the Presidential election being so near that the whole question was put over to the present Congress. At the first session of this Congress, for the same reason it was delayed until the present session of Congress. The committee on banking and currency of the House and finance committee of the Senate have taken no special action, but up to the present moment it has been determined that before this Congress closes there should be some definite scheme formulated to be presented to the proposed extra session of the Fifty-fifth Congress.

"And but for this convention some scheme would have been provided. This convention was called. What have you done? The extra session meets—you cannot inaugurate your commission before the close of the present Congress; you cannot determine whether you will appoint this commission by this body until that scheme is tried, and then it goes over to the regular session of Congress, and when the next Congress is elected, if legislation has not before been had, you will not get it. You will not, in my judgment, get it for ten years. I don't believe there is a member of Congress here nor in Washington who believes by the machinery you have devised here anything can be accomplished until the Fifty-sixth Congress. I ask the people—if you wish to face the people again—if the financial condition has been revealed to them."

In closing, Mr. Walker said:

"Now, I did propose that you said something about the methods of securing legislation, if there had been the slightest hope or encouragement from this convention, but I want to say to you that you have damned the whole reform, damned it here to-day in the weakness of human nature, and there is no salvation."

By this time the delegates were aroused and interested and began to prepare for the squall that was to come. Congressman Fowler offered the following as an amendment to the committee's report:

Resolved, That the permanent executive board of this body shall be constituted by the selection of one member from each of the states represented, and that those so selected shall be the delegates of the respective states; and that said committee shall confer and co-operate with the banking and currency committee of the House and the finance committee of the Senate to secure the inevitable passage of a bill carrying out the principles adopted.

Mr. Bullitt, of Pennsylvania, spoke against Mr. Fowler's amendment, urging that it would not be feasible to appoint a commission composed of one man from every state in the Union. He said:

"On that committee you want men of the same caliber of the men who brought this convention together—men who are not to be deterred from doing their duty, even by being told by the chairman of the committee on currency that our movement here is damned. No man should rest from going forward in a movement he believes to be right because some man in a moment of disappointment tells you that you are damned (Immense applause).

"You have a right to call upon Congress. You have a right to say to them that they must do what will conduce to the true interests of the country and what will preserve to you and to other citizens the rights that they enjoy. They have that right, and so far from believing that this movement is to fail in the future, or it is to be cut down, that members of Congress, gentlemen, will not notice it, let us move forward confident that we are right, determined to assert our rights, and determined to hold them responsible if they do not come up to what is rightfully expected of them."

Congressman Walker at this point again took the floor, saying among other things:

"You have a friendly Congress now; you may have a hostile one next. The members of Congress are not absolutely ignorant and all the wisdom is not outside."

After a running debate in which E. C. Kamp, of Knoxville, Tenn.; Mr. Rhoades, of New York, and Mr. Walker took part, the latter said:

"The spirit manifested here and, that has prompted this report has been defeated for ten years and will be defeated for ten more. Proceed in a way that will bring results with the men you have to deal with and who are as much interested as the members of this convention, and, if you take up any of them for a flat, you would better let him alone."

At this juncture, M. E. Ingalls, of Cincinnati, in remarks that evidently voiced the sentiments of every man on the convention floor, except Congressmen Walker and Fowler, said:

"If your friend Walker wishes to give a lecture on the best way to help Congress, I will hire a hall and give him an evening. In the 60 or 90 days there is no question but what you can get this measure through Congress at its special session, if it has one. There are some men, you know, who fail to see the glories of this world; sigh for the prophet's paradise to come. There are some things they never like, but there is one thing we may congratulate ourselves upon, and that is a convention of 300 and odd business-men are going to resolve that the future standard of this country shall be gold."

Mr. Hanna, of Indianapolis, said:

"There is no question that if this committee performs its work well, it will have a measure ready to present to Congress next winter. The work will be done slowly and carefully. It was not the purpose to frame a bill until it was known what was wanted."

"Mr. Chairman," interrupted Mr. Fowler, "allow me to say that as it now seems to be the unanimous sentiment in this House, as it was in the committee, against my substitute, I withdraw that substitute."

A tremendous burst of applause greeted Mr. Fowler's remarks, and a solution of the vexing substitute question was at hand.

A vote was called for, and the report of the committee was adopted as a whole by a large vote.

At this point Mr. Fowler again interrupted to say that there would be no men in the United States who would more readily listen to suggestions emanating from the convention than Mr. Walker and himself.

A vote of thanks to the people of Indianapolis and to all concerned was carried unanimously. A vote of thanks was then tendered to Chairman Patterson, and fast on this motion came thanks for everybody.

Mr. Woodward, of Washington, tendered the board of trade rooms in Washington for the use of the executive committee in Washington when there. This invitation was accepted, and the convention then adjourned subject to the call of the executive committee.

At 6:20 o'clock the delegates moved from the hall and the great convention was over.

MOTHER STEWART.

The Venerable Lady Lies at Death's Door.

Springfield, O., Jan. 13.—Mother Stewart, the world-famous crusader, whose name has been a household word ever since the inauguration of the memorable crusades in '73, is at death's door. Several months ago, while up town shopping, she fell, sadly injuring her back. Since then her decline has been steady.

At a recent meeting of the local W. C. T. U. at her home, she was pulled in on a couch. She told those present she felt her end was very near. All those present were visibly affected by

MOTHER STEWART.

the statement. The aged lady celebrated her eightieth birthday last summer, at which time she received messages from many parts of the civilized world. One of the chiefest was from Lady Henry Somerset, of England.

COLORADO GOLD MINE.

Sold to the Rothschilds for a Million.

New York, Jan. 14.—The World this morning says: An important deal has been arranged in this city whereby the great Tomboy gold mine of San Miguel county, Colorado has passed into the hands of the exploration company. This company is more widely known as the Rothschild syndicate whose investment of $25,000,000 in the Anaconda copper mine a year ago, set the financial world talking. The Tomboy is recognized as one of the richest gold mines in the United States. It was first opened six years ago by Ernest Walters and then passed through a company made up of Gov. Adams, of Colorado, his brother Frank and Messrs. William Bailey, O. H. Posey and S. J. Underwood.

These gentlemen transferred their interests to the Rothschild syndicate yesterday for $1,000,000. The Tomboy has already paid $700,000 and its new owners will at once put in a new extensive plant for the full development of the property.

IN SCHOOL HISTORIES.

Committee of G. A. R. to Correct Errors in War Stories.

Cleveland, O., Jan. 14.—The committee appointed at the last national G. A. R. encampment for the purpose of making a thorough examination of all literature relating to the civil war or studied in the public schools of the country are in session here. The committee consists of Judge A. O. Marsh, of Winchester, Ind.; Thomas F. Sample, of Allegheny, Pa.; Rev. D. C. Miller, of Chicago; William M. Olin, of Boston, and N. M. Dickinson, of Warrensburg, N. Y. Most of them have at one time or another held high positions in the G. A. R.

The sessions are devoted to the inspection of school histories. The committee found many statements which it is charged are flagrantly incorrect. The committee will be in session here two days and will report at the next national encampment.

FIFTY-FOURTH CONGRESS.

Washington, Jan. 13.—Some lively political sparring marked the later hours of the Senate yesterday. The free homestead bill was under discussion and Mr. Allen found opportunity for questioning Mr. Vilas, of Wisconsin, concerning the party differences of last fall. It brought out much difference of opinion as to whether the Democratic platform was made at Chicago or at Indianapolis.

The homestead bill was further debated, but a vote was not reached.

Mr. Hill (Dem., N. Y.), who has not often addressed the Senate of late spoke in favor of a law fixing four years as the term of fourth-class postmasters.

House.—The house yesterday witnessed a sensational sequel to the remarkable attack made by Mr. Johnson, of California, on Editor Hearst. Mr. Johnson and Mr. Maguire, (Dem., Cal.) were the antagonists. Their wordy duel grew out of the publication in the Record, as a part of Mr. Maguire's remarks or comments on the former's speech last week in which Maguire defended Mr. Hearst, and, without the mention of Mr. Johnson's name, detailed some matters in the early life of the latter when he resided in Syracuse, N. Y. This incident overshadowed interest in the House proceedings. Early in the day the speaker sustained the point of order against the motion to recommit the Pacific funding bill.

Washington, Jan. 14.—The open session of the Senate yesterday was much curtailed by an executive session lasting two hours. After this the balance of the day was given to Mr. Bacon, of Georgia, in a speech upholding the power of Congress to recognize new governments. An agreement was reached for a vote on the free homestead bill at 4 p. m. to-day.

House—After a very dull day, devoted to passage of bills of minor importance, the House plunged into a warm controversy over a bill to make oleomargarine and other imitations of dairy products subject to the laws of states into which they are transported.

The House got into a parliamentatry struggle over the measure, on account of the determination of Mr. Cannon (Ill.) to secure more time for its consideration, and adjourned leaving it unfinished.

Washington, Jan. 15.—The Senate yesterday passed the measure known as the free homestead bill, which has been under discussion since the holiday recess. The effect of the bill is to open to settlement all public lands acquired from Indians, free of any payment to the government beyond the minor office fees and to release from payment those who have heretofore settled on these lands. The number of acres involved, according to an estimate made by the commissioner of the general land office, is 33,252,541, which would have yielded the government, at the prices heretofore established, $35,343,006.

During the day Mr. Morgan secured the adoption of a resolution for an inquiry by the judiciary committee as to whether the properties of the Union and Central Pacific Railroad companies now belonged to the United States by reason of alleged defaults in the payment of bonds.

House.—The House spent almost the entire day debating the Grout bill, which was under consideration for a time to subject oleomargarine and other imitation dairy products to the laws of the states into which they are transported.

Washington, Jan. 16.—The proceedings in the House yesterday were evry tame. It was private bill day, but the whole time was consumed in passing bills favorably acted upon in committee of the whole before the holiday recess.

Washington, Jan. 19.—The Senate yesterday voted to take up the Nicaragua canal bill. This gives the measure the parliamentary advantage of being the unfinished business of the Senate, so that it will be considered from day to day until final action is secured. The prospect is that a final vote will be reached at an early day and the test vote on taking up this bill—yeas, 36; nays, 14—foreshadowed its passage.

During the day Mr. Chandler introduced the Republican caucus bill for an international monetary conference and stated that it would be called up to-day. Among the resolutions offered was one from Mr. Pettigrew, of South Dakota, calling on the secretary of state for a statement of the status of the Venezuelan question and for the agreement made between the United States and Great Britain.

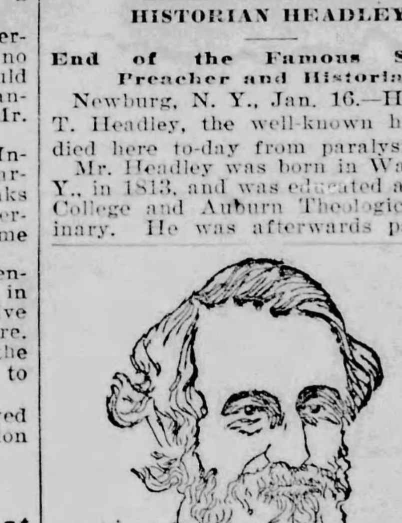
House—The House passed three bills of public importance and devoted the remainder of the day to District of Columbia business. One prohibited the sale of intoxicating liquors to the Indians; one amended the existing patent laws in conformity with the recommendations of the American Bar association; and another provided for the use by the government of patents secured by naval officers at compensation to be fixed by a board of three officers.

HISTORIAN HEADLEY.

End of the Famous Scholar, Preacher and Historian.

Newburg, N. Y., Jan. 16.—Hon. Joel T. Headley, the well-known historian, died here to-day from paralysis.

Mr. Headley was born in Walton, N. Y., in 1813, and was educated at Union College and Auburn Theological Seminary. He was afterwards pastor of



HISTORIAN HEADLY.

the Presbyterian church in Stockbridge, Mass., and was at one time engaged with Horace Greely in the editorship of the New York Tribune.

Mr. Headley wrote several historical works, among them being "Life of Cromwell," "Washington and His Generals," "Life of Farragut," etc. He was elected secretary of state in 1855 on the Know Nothing ticket.

In the middle of the present century Joel T. Headley was perhaps the most popular writer in America on the subjects which he chose for his labor. Prior in 1850, when Mr. Headley was only 36 years old, more than 200,000 copies of his works had been published and sold. A new and complete edition of his works was published in 1892 and met with a large sale.

RULE WOMEN OUT.

Colorado Senators Are Afraid of Their Wiles.

Denver, Col., Jan. 16.—The state Senators in caucus have devised ways and means whereby the susceptible members of that deliberative body may be shielded from the influences of the women employes.

Through the influence of the "third house," as the organization of professional lobbyists is known, and the jealousy of some of the Senators who failed to secure positions for their women constituents, an order was made the previous day that no woman should be allowed on the floor of the Senate during business hours. The women were willing to compromise and wear veils while they were in the chamber, but the self-constituted committee on public morals would not have it that way. Among the 52 employes of the Senate are two stenographers and they are both women.

After the veiling compromise put forth by a representative of the women had been voted down, another proposition was advanced that a small cloister in the corner of the chamber be erected for women where they could see and not be seen, hear and not be heard; but the state capitol commissioners would not give their consent. No compromise would be listened to by the leaders of the anti-woman crusade. They had promised before leaving home to avoid frivolities and attend strictly to business, and business could not be strictly attended to, as had been demonstrated at previous sessions, with a bevy of women flitting like bees from flower to flower in the interest of some pet scheme.

It was ordered that the official stenographer shall not appear within the Senate chamber while the Senate is in session until further orders.

Descendant of John Brown.

Akron, O., Jan. 13.—Word has been received by relatives in this city that Mrs. Adams, a daughter of "Ossawatomie" John Brown, has been presented with a purse of $3,000, collected by the people of California, among whom Mrs. Adams is now living. Mrs. Adams is the mother of eight children, recently lost her home by fire, and has been in destitute circumstances.

South Carolina's Governor.

Charleston, S. C., Jan. 19.—William H. Ellerbee was inaugurated governor of South Carolina yesterday. Several thousand people witnessed the ceremonies. The inaugural address dwelt entirely with state affairs.

Every man should read the offer of Thos. Slater on page 3 of this paper.

SENATOR FAIRBANKS

Elected on the First Ballot at Indianapolis.

Indianapolis, Ind., Jan. 13.—The 85 Republicans of the legislature last night nominated Charles W. Fairbanks, of this city, for United States senator on the first ballot. The vote was as follows:

Fairbanks, 60; Gen. Lew Wallace, 6; W. R. McKeen, of Terre Haute, 11; R.

CHARLES W. FAIRBANKS.

S. Taylor, of Ft. Wayne, 3; Frank Posey, of Evansville, 3; Benjamin Harrison, 1; Judge Baker 1.

Mr. Fairbanks was temporary chairman of the national Republican convention and has never held civic or military office. He was born in Union county Ohio, in 1852 and graduated at Delaware, O., in 1872 in the same class with Senator-elect Foraker, of Ohio. He was admitted to the bar in Ohio, married the daughter of Judge Cole, of Marysville, O., and moved to this city in 1872. He is a corporation lawyer and has amassed a fortune.

UNITED STATES SENATORS.

Spooner in Wisconsin.

Madison, Wis., Jan. 14.—Col. John C. Spooner was unanimously nominated for United States Senator by the Republican joint executive caucus last evening. Being conducted before the caucus, the nominee made a brilliant response to the nominating and seconding speeches, declaring for protection, reciprocity, the right of the federal government to arbitrarily invade states to protect its property, for currency reform and the present monetary standard.

Mitchell in Oregon.

Salem, Ore., Jan. 15.—The Republicans in joint caucus last night by a unanimous vote of the members present nominated John H. Mitchell to succeed himself in the United States Senate. Forty-four members were present, and letters were read from two others who were detained by sickness, stating they would abide by the will of the caucus. This gives Mitchell a bare majority of the legislature. The Mitchell men are jubilant, and claim four more members who refused to go into caucus will cast their votes for Mitchell.

Succeeds Himself.

Bismarck, N. D., Jan. 19.—United States Senator Henry C. Hansbrough, whose term expires on March 4, will be his own successor. The Senate and House in separate session balloted today and in each branch the retiring Senator received a majority. To-morrow the houses will convene in joint session when the result of to-day's separate ballots will be announced and the formal declaration of election made.

Perkins in California.

Sacramento, Cal., Jan. 14.—The two branches of the legislature met in joint session yesterday, and canvassed the vote of the assembly and Senate, which showed that George C. Perkins had received a majority in each house for United States Senator, and he was formally declared elected.

Gallinger Succeeds Himself.

Concord, N. H., Jan. 14.—The Republican caucus last night unanimously nominated Jacob H. Gallinger as United States Senator to succeed himself.

Pickler in South Dakota.

Pierre, S. D., Jan. 14.—The Republican caucus last night selected Congressman Pickler as their candidate for United States Senator.

SHERMAN HEADS THE CABINET.

He Says So, and That Settles It for Good.

Canton, O., Jan. 15.—Senator Sherman went East at 2:05. At the station he said to the Associated Press: "I have accepted the state portfolio."

Canton, O., Jan. 15.—Senator Sherman arrived in Canton at 10:30, via the Ft. Wayne railroad from Washington. He was met at the depot by Capt. H. O. Heisland and Capt. Floyd, with the major's private carriage, and driven directly to the McKinley residence. The greeting between Major McKinley and Senator Sherman was very cordial and the south parlor was thrown open to the Senator, and they were soon in close conference. The visit of Senator Sherman is expected to settle some of the perplexing rumors which have been current for some weeks concerning the senior Ohio Senator and the cabinet.

With Senator Sherman was Senator J. C. Burrows, of Michigan. Senator Burrow's visit is also looked upon as very important at this time. Much speculation has been engaged in as to a possible invitation being extended Gen. Russell A. Alger, of the Wolverine state to accept the war portfolio. It is believed by many of the friends of General Alger that he will be chosen by the President-elect to the cabinet.

Senator Burrows had a long talk with Major McKinley upon his arrival. He is a close friend of the President-elect, and the greeting of the two was very cordial. Mr. Burrows will probably leave Canton for Michigan this afternoon.

SENATOR FORAKER SEEN

Supposed to Know a Heap He Declares He Knows Naught.

Cincinnati, O., Jan. 15.—Cincinnati Republicans feel a lively and genuine interest in the final confirmation of the news that John Sherman is to be the next secretary of state. It is not alone because of the admiration in this city for the great Ohioan, nor yet solely because of the general appreciation of his distinguished services to the country and the party during an almost unprecedented career in public life. All these considerations appeal to the thoughtful students of national affairs.

Now, if there is one man in town who ought to know something about these matters that man is Hon. Joseph B. Foraker. But whether the Senator-elect knows much or little he certainly succeeded in not telling the reporters who called upon him yesterday afternoon.

"I have no information—whatever on this subject," said he. "I have seen neither Major McKinley nor Mr. Hanna since the report of Senator Sherman's acceptance of the state portfolio. Nor have I heard from either of them. I do not know whether Mr. Hanna now desires to go to the Senate or not, nor have I been consulted, either directly or indirectly, as to his appointment since the nomination of Senator Sherman seems to have been decided upon."

"Do you know what Governor Bushnell's purposes are?"

"I do not. No one, so far as I know, has ever spoken to him with respect to the Senatorial vacancy."

That was all Governor Foraker would say. While his happy mood showed how heartily he has enjoyed the vain attempts of the Democratic press to find or make a breach in the Republican household, he preferred not to discuss questions that he is not yet called upon to meet.

All of which is respectfully dedicated to the palates of the political gossips.

To Investigate Trusts.

Albany, N. Y., Jan. 15.—In the Senate to-day Mr. Lexow offered a resolution calling for the appointment of a joint committee of three senators and four assemblymen to investigate the existence of alleged trusts. It is made a special order for next Tuesday.

A DAKOTA DIVORCE.

New York Judge Decides It of No Effect.

New York, Jan. 14.—Justice Russell, in the Supreme court, formulated his ruling that a divorce procured in North Dakota by a resident of this state is invalid. The case was that of Henry P. McGown against Mary Emma McGown, the plaintiff, suing for divorce on the ground that the defendant was unlawfully living with Harry Bell as his wife. Mrs. McGown after procuring a divorce in North Dakota, had married Bell. In his decision Justice Russell said:

"The wife's place is at the home of her husband and child, and she cannot acquire a foreign residence for the express purpose of freeing herself from the charge of violation of duty and exempting herself from its obligations. Nor if she had gained a residence in the state of North Dakota would her suit here have been effective. To sever the marriage ties by judicial force the courts must gain jurisdiction by personal service of the process upon the defendant or by his voluntary appearance."

FOREIGN.

PARLIAMENT OPEN.

The Usual Pomp and Ceremony is Observed.

London, Jan. 19.—The third session of the fourteenth parliament was formally opened by royal commission at 2 o'clock this afternoon. The function was observed with all due and customary ceremony.

It is the custom to select the youngest peers, at each session, to move and second the address in the house of lords. This gives them, usually, the opportunity of making their maiden speech. Today the Marquis of Bath and Lord Kenyon were selected for the honor.

The queen's speech in substance as follows:

Queen's Speech.

My Lords and Gentlemen: My relations with all the other powers continue to be of a friendly character.

The appalling massacres which have taken place at Constantinople and in other parts of the Ottoman dominions have called for the special attention of the powers, signatory of the treaty of Paris. Papers will be laid before you showing the considerations which induced the powers to make the present condition of the Ottoman empire the subject of the special consultation with their representatives at Constantinople.

The action undertaken by His Highness, the Khedive of Egypt, against the Khalifa, with my approval and assistance, has so far been entirely successful.

My government has discussed with the United States, acting as a friend of Venezuela, the terms whereunder pending questions of the disputed frontier between that republic and my colony of British Guiana may be equitably submitted to arbitration, and an arrangement has been arrived at with that government which I trust will effect an adjustment of the controversies without exposing to risks the interests of any of the colonists whose established rights are in the disputed territory.

Arbitration Treaty.

It is with much gratification that I have concluded a treaty for general arbitration with the president of the United States whereby, I trust, all differences which may arise between us will be peacefully adjusted. I hope this arrangement may have a further value in commending to other powers the consideration of a principle whereby the danger of war may be finally abated.

The queen's speech then refers to the repression of the rebellion in South Africa and the appointment of a commission to inquire into the sugar industry of the West Indies, and continues:

It is with much regret and feelings of the deepest sympathy that I have heard that, owing to the failure of the autumn rains and scarcity, famine affects a large portion of my dominions in India.

After referring to the measures taken to mitigate the suffering from famine and making a reference to the Tubonic plague at Bombay, the speech says:

I have directed my government to take the most stringent measures to eradicate it.

The speech concludes with referring to the proposed bill for the relief voluntarily schools, employers liability, adding to the efficiency of military defences, to establish an Irish board of agriculture and various commercial bills, including the exclusion of goods manufactured in foreign prisons and a bill to establish reformatories for inebriates.

REBEL TORPEDO

Put an End to a Spanish Expedition On January 17.

Havana, Jan. 19.—The gunboats Centinela and Relampago left Manzanillo on the night of January 16, with the object of going up the river Cauto to Fort Guamo. At 10 o'clock on the morning of January 17, both gunboats were near Mango landing, when an explosion of a torpedo, which had been well placed in the river, sunk the Relampago. Those of the crew who survived, swam toward shore, but were fired on from the banks. At this critical moment a boat was launched from the Centinela, which rescued the men in the water. In view of the fact that the commander of the Centinela, and nearly all of the crew of both gunboats had been seriously wounded, the expedition had to return to Manzanillo.

When the gunboat Relampago struck the torpedo which sunk her off Mango, there was no time to lower a boat, and almost before the extent of the disaster could be realized, the vessel went down.

Those on board of her who were not injured, jumped into the water, and made their way the best they could in the direction of the Centinela, aboard of which the greatest excitement prevailed. As soon as it was seen that the Relampago was sinking, the Centinela's boats were ordered away to assist in the rescue of the crew of the former.

The rebels appeared to be in strong force along the banks of the river, and when they saw the Spaniards in the water, they directed a heavy rifle fire upon them. The Centinela opened fire upon the rebels, but as they could not be seen, and their position could only be discovered by the smoke from their guns, it is not believed that serious losses were inflicted upon them.

When the Centinela's boats attempted to rescue the men struggling in the water, the rebels fired upon them, but Spaniards bravely persisted in their work of rescue until all the men had been taken from the water.

Nearly every survivor of the Relampago was wounded, and there was only a few of the men belonging to the Centinela who had not been hit by the rebel bullets. The commander of the Centinela was so seriously wounded that doubts are entertained of his recovery. The condition of the survivors was such that it was impossible for the Centinela to proceed to Guama, and she therefore, returned to Manzanillo, where the news of the disaster caused intense excitement.

LIBEL FAULTY.

Decision Rendered Favorable to the Three Friends.

Jacksonville, Fla., Jan. 19.—Judge Locke, of the United States court for the southern district of Florida, has rendered his decision in the Three Friends' case upon the exceptions of the defense to the libel of the government for violating neutrality laws. The point was raised by counsel for the defense that inasmuch as the Cuban insurgents had not been recognized by the United States government, they were neither a people nor a body politic, as defined by section 5283 under which the libel was drawn. This was sustained by Judge Locke and the district attorney was given ten days in which to file an amended libel. The point was one that had never been raised before.

FIGHTING AGAINST FATE.

Gen. Weyler Venting His Spite On Everybody.

Havana, Jan. 14.—Capt.-Gen. Weyler is in a very bad humor, and semingly with good reason. He was with difficulty dissuaded a day or so ago from sending Senor Pena, correspondent of the Madrid Heraldo, to Morro Castle, and the newspaper man in question is not safe from the Spanish commander, who was aroused by the criticisms of the conduct of the campaign in Cuba. To such a degree has the captain-general felt his ill-temper that nobody outside of his military and civil advisers has been able to see him since his latest return from the field.

That he is in danger of recall, nobody here for a moment doubts, in spite of the many official and semi-official denials from Madrid, for it is is remembered that the same course was followed by the government in the case of the recall of Marshal Martinez de Campos. Weyler cannot truthfully be said to have achieved a single success, diplomatic, administrative, military or otherwise.

There are probably more insurgents, better armed and supplied, in Pinar del Rio at the present moment than at any time since the insurrection broke out. Gen. Weyler once openly remarked that the western part of that province alone contained 7,000 armed men, and that large additional "bands" of insurgents were hovering about his trocha. The Spanish commander sent 50,000 men against the little insurgent army, and the latter acting with admirable strategy, seemed to disappear, and the best efforts of the Spanish generals have failed to discover their whereabouts.

TOWARD HAVANA

Gomes is Marching With a Triumphant Army.

New York, Jan. 15.—The Press claims to have received news through private channels that Gen. Maximo Gomez stormed and captured the important city of Santa Clara on January 9, and is now moving on Havana with 18,000 men. The famous cavalry leader, Quintin Banderas, was mortally wounded, the Press says, and General Luque, commander of the Spanish, was also wounded. The news received last night said that the losses were: Spanish, estimated killed and wounded, 900; prisoners, 700; cannon captured, 18; battle standards, 4; rifles in the Spanish arsenal, 5,000, with plenty of ammunition.

Cubans killed and wounded, 1,500, which is 600 more than the Spanish loss.

The Press quotes Carlos Roloff as saying the report is credible. The junta has no news.

On to Havana.

According to the Press advices, the garrison of Santa Clara had been reduced to 2,000 men, while Gomez had 8,000 men, 6,000 being armed. On January 5, he invaded the city, which was well fortified.

Gomez gave his men only a night's rest. Then leaving a garrison of 1,500 men he pushed on to the West. Those of his men who had no weapons were armed from the Spanish arsenal, so that in fighting men he was nearly as strong as before the battle.

No sooner had the news of the fall of Santa Clara reached the planters round about than they began to flock to Gomez's standard. Every mile he went he got new recruits. The news received last night said he now has an army of 18,000 well equipped men.

SPAIN YIELDING.

Queen and Cabinet Make Some Promises.

London, Jan. 15.—A despatch to the Pall Mall Gazette from Madrid says that a cabinet meeting just held, the queen regent presiding, it was agreed to introduce reforms in the Island of Cuba, and a royal decree on the subject will be published on the king's fete day.

It is added that it is possible that Julio Sanguilly, the American citizen recently sentenced at Havana to imprisonment for life on the charge of conspiracy against the government, will be granted a free pardon.

FEARFUL FAMINE.

Millions Are Suffering Terribly in India.

London, Jan. 13.—Lord George Hamilton, secretary of state for the Indian department has sent to the lord mayor the statement upon which the appeal for subscriptions for the relief of the famine sufferers in India was based. He says that districts with a population of 37,000,000 will be sufferers from famine until the end of March and that it may continue in some parts until the end of June. In other districts having 44,000,000 of people the distress may deepen with famine for a shorter or longer period, while 6,000,000 people in the native states may be victims of famine.

It is estimated that the famine will cost the Indian treasury at least from four to six million pounds.

A cablegram from Calcutta states that the distress is rapidly deepening.

The Daily Mail's Bombay correspondent reports that in all quarters the famine is daily becoming more severe and widespread. Heartrending scenes are reported from the interior.

At Jubbulpore men and women reduced to living skeletons are lying at the roadsides. There are terrible scenes at the burial grounds of the Mohammedans which are much overcrowded and where the bodies of plague-stricken victims recently interred are dug up to make room for fresh arrivals.

HALF HAVE FLED.

Awful Effects of the Plague at Bombay.

Bombay, Jan. 14.—Over half the population of this city, estimated to amount to about 900,000, has fled from the plague and the erstwhile crowded streets, docks and bazaars are not recognizable. Business in piece goods, metals, crockery and hardware is at a standstill and the money lenders have vanished. The courts are deserted and the judges and officials have gone to a healthier clime. Many of the native doctors, graduates of the college, have fled, and those remaining refuse to attend plague cases, or when they do attend to them, will not touch the sufferers, dreading contagion. Clerks and others whose vocations call them to the city daily, removed to suburban stations, where the people are mostly living in thatched huts. It is estimated that 800,000 persons are encamped at Andheri, from whence they will soon be forced to migrate owing to the lack of water and sanitation, threatening to breed cholera.

Contagion is Spreading.

The cemeteries are already filled to overflowing and the wind is spreading the contagion. The nights are made hideous by cymbals and melancholy dirges.

A difficulty is experienced in burying the dead, friends and relatives refusing to carry the corpses. In some instances women have assisted in carrying the dead bodies. A large number of plague corpses at the Tower of Silence, the Parsee burial places, have not been eaten by the vultures inhabiting it. Corpses have been found in the streets.

The official returns show that up to last evening there were 3,394 cases of bubonic plague and 2,356 deaths from that disease.

THE BENIN SLAUGHTER.

Only White Men Left to Tell of a Massacre.

London, Jan. 15.—A dispatch received here from Brass, on the Guinea coast, dated Jan. 14, announces that Capt. Boisragon and Consular Officer Locke, two of the party headed by Consul Phillips which was almost annihilated by the natives of Benin City while on a peaceful mission to that district and unarmed, have been saved after wandering in the bush for a week. Both men were wounded and there is no hope of any farther rescues. Twenty of the native carriers have returned.

THE ORIENT.

Budget of News From Japan and China.

Vancouver, B. C., Jan. 14.—Among the advices from the Orient just received per steamship Empress of Japan are the following:

The Chinese in Tarchou prefecture who burned down a temple which had been sold to Roman Catholics, have agreed to settle the affair by paying 2,000 taels damages. The Chinese say that they destroyed the temple because the mission had taken it over from a converted nun.

The hand of Russia in Korean affairs is daily becoming more evident and that country is gradually gaining a firm foothold in the peninsula.

Japanese newspaper correspondents are for once right in stating that there is widespread manouevering among Koreans who view Russian aggression with suspicion and jealousy. It is the general opinion that Russia has its eye on Daglet Island, off the coast of Korea as a suitable point for a naval station.

The rumored appointment of Mr. Oishu, as Japanese minister to Korea is received with dissatisfaction. When in Korea previously he gained an unenviable reputation by his bullying policy in Yuensan Peen case.

The Japanese are also greatly discontented with the revival of Chinese trade with Korea which Chinese merchants are now obtaining the lions share.

Li Hung Chang has rented a house in Peking which is considered to mean that the viceroy will make a long stay here.

Their excellencies Lo Aong Lo, minister designate to Great Britain, Italy and Belgium and Wu Ting Fang, minister disignate to the United States, Spain and Peru, expect to leave for their respective posts in April. Both have been given the brevet rank of court officers of the fourth grade.

RUSSIA AND CHINA.

Secret Alliance That May Mean a Great Deal.

Vancouver, B. C., Jan. 14.—Among the oriental advices brought by the steamer Empress of Japan are the following: Although a secret alliance between Russia and China is denied by both Chinese officials and the Russian minister, the Pekin correspondent of the North China News says that it is only too true and that long ago he had stated that China had sold herself to Russia to an extent which would not be believed.

In relation to the said treaty the greatest care as been taken to prevent its leaking out in Pekin before the ratification, six months hence. In the Russian legation, while the treaty was being drafted and finally drawn up, the Chinese writers were not allowed to fill in the proper names in the treaty. This was done by the Chinese interpreter himself. "If," says the correspondent, "the Chinese themselves within a year can undertake the building of the Manchurian railways, good and well; if not Russia will come to the rescue."

Famine Fund.

London, Jan. 14.—The lord mayor's Indian famine fund has now reached over £35,000 ($175,000), of which amount Mr. William Waldorf Astor gave £2,000 ($10,000).

Wolcott in England.

London, Jan. 18.—Senator Wolcott is the guest of Baron Rothschild at his country seat, Tring Park, Hertfordshire.

Do not fail to read Thos. Slater's offer on page 3 for men.

BLADE CHINA TEA SETS

—AND—

DINNER SETS.

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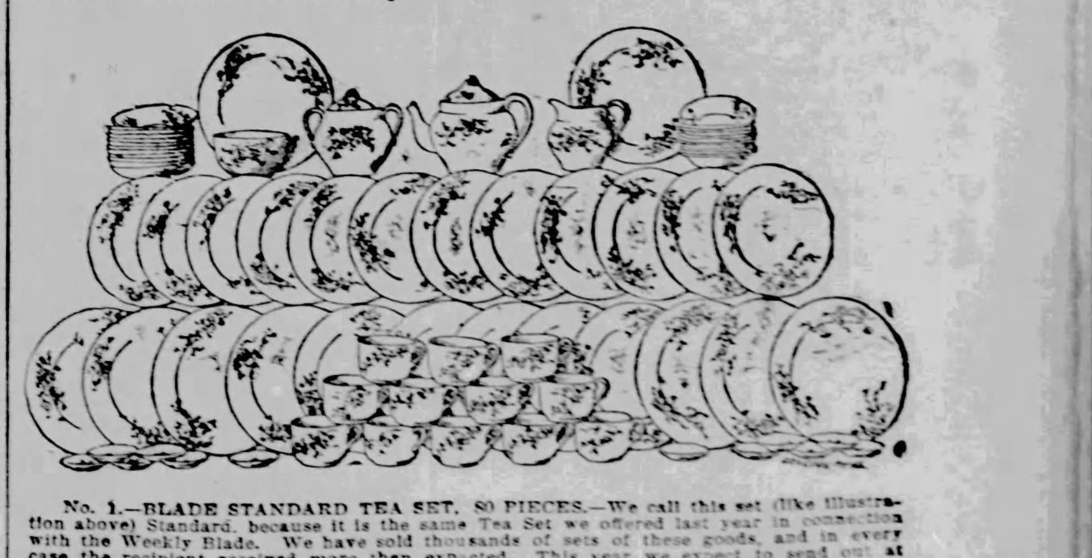

No. 1.—BLADE STANDARD TEA SET, 80 PIECES.—We call this set (like illustration above) Standard, because it is the same Tea Set we offered last year in connection with the Weekly Blade. We have sold thousands of sets of these goods, and in every case the recipient received more than expected. This year we expect to send out at the reduced prices over Five Thousand Sets. This set consists of 80 pieces, as follows: 12 breakfast plates, 12 tea plates, 12 tea cups, 12 saucers, 12 fruit dishes, 12 individual butter dishes, 2 round cake plates, 1 tea pot, 1 cover, 1 sugar bowl, 1 cover, 1 cream pitcher and 1 bowl.

The No. 1 Blade Standard Tea Set, 80 Pieces, and the Weekly Blade one year, only $5.00 (former price $7); or we will present one of these sets to any person sending us a club of seven subscribers and $7.00. The club of seven names to be sent all at one time.

No. 2.—BLADE TEA SET, 56 PIECES.—This set is exactly like the above illustrated 80-piece Tea Set, deducting 12 breakfast plates and 12 individual butter plates.

The No. 2 Tea Set, 56 Pieces, and the Weekly Blade, one year, only $3.75, (former price $5.50;) or we will present one of these Sets to any person sending us a club of Six Subscribers and $6. The club of six names to be sent all at one time.

No. 3.—BLADE DINNER SET, 108 PIECES.—We can describe this set by taking the above illustrated 80-piece Tea Set and adding the following: 12 soup plates, 1 8-inch dish, 1 12-inch dish, 2 8-inch bakers, 1 sauce boat, 2 pickle dishes, 1 covered dish (2 pieces), 2 casseroles, 1 comport, 1 covered butter dish (3 pieces), and 1 jug, making a total of 108 pieces.

The No. 3 Blade Dinner Set, 108 Pieces, and the Weekly Blade one year, only $8.25; or we will present one of these Sets to any person sending us a club of 16 Subscribers and $16. The club of 16 names to be sent all at one time.

No. 4.—BLADE CHINA SORTS, 28 PIECES, consisting of 12 soup plates, 1 8-inch dish, 1 12-inch dish, 2 8-inch bakers, 1 sauce boat, 2 pickle dishes, 1 covered dish (2 pieces), 2 casseroles, 1 comport, 1 covered butter dish (3 pieces), and 1 jug. We also offer this to those who may first purchase a No. 1 Standard Tea Set and afterwards desire to have a complete dinner set.

The No. 4 Blade China Sorts, 28 Pieces, and the Weekly Blade one year, only $4.50; or we will present one of these Assortments to any person sending us a club of eight subscribers and $8. The club of eight names all to be sent at one time.

NOTE.—These sets are decorated with a later pattern than those we sold two years ago, and consequently will not match with former purchases. We recommend our readers to buy, first, our No. 1 Blade Standard Set. Afterwards, if pleased with the goods, you may order our No. 4 set, the two combined making you a complete dinner set.

General Directions and Information.

ORDER BY NUMBER. The goods are carefully packed in box by manufacturer and shipped direct from the pottery to the purchaser upon our order. We shall order every package shipped by freight unless otherwise instructed. The receiver pays transportation. From 25 cents to $1, according to distance, will cover freight east of the Missouri River, while it may cost somewhere near $2 to pay freight to points beyond the Rockies. We do not advise shipping by express. Never before was so much value offered for so little money. Twenty years ago only the rich could afford such goods as we offer here. We guarantee these goods the best Stone China in the world, superior in enamel, color, style and finish to the best imported wares. We make no profit. We want and will have as a result of this offer, thousands of clubs. These articles will be useful in the house of every reader of The Blade, no matter whether rich or poor. Any person who will try it can raise a club of ten to twenty for The Blade in one day. Get about it before some one else canvasses the field. We are prepared to fill orders promptly.

THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

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6.	Thinking of Home and Mother	A. M. Cohen
8.	Flossie. Waltz song	A. M. Cohen
10.	The Sweetest Song	L. Denza
12.	The Bridge. Words by Longfellow	Carew
14.	An Outcast. Character song	J. J. Fritz
16.	Ben Bolt, of "Trilby" fame	N. Kneass
18.	'E Dunno Where 'E Are. Comic	F. Eplet
20.	Keep the Horseshoe Over the Door	Skelly
22.	Rocked in the Cradle of the Deep	Knight
24.	Luriline, Do You Think of Me Now?	H. M. Estabrooke
26.	Ave Maria (Cavalleria Rusticana)	Mascagni
28.	Juanita. Ballad	T. G. May
30.	Mission of a Rose, The. Song	F. H. Cowen
32.	Sweet Long Ago, The	H. M. Estabrooke
34.	By Normandie's Blue Hills	H. Trotere
36.	For the Colors	H. L. Wilson
38.	True to the Last	S. Adams
40.	Love Ever Faithful	P. Bucalossi
42.	Come When Soft Twilight Falls	Schumann
44.	Beautiful Face of Jennie Knott	Reissmann
46.	That Word Was "Hope"	W. Nutting
48.	Little Boy Blue	H. H. Estabrooke
50.	Easter Eve. Sacred	C. Gounod
52.	Mother's Cry, A	F. Adriance
54.	Musical Dialogue. Duet	K. M. Heimund
56.	Precious Treasure	L. Weller
58.	When the Roses Are Blooming Again	J. P. Skelly
60.	Old Glory. National air	J. H. Woods
62.	Your Mother's Love for You	K. Koppt
64.	Vicar of Bray, The. Old English song	
66.	For You We Are Praying at Home	H. M. Estabrooke
68.	Lovely Little Nellie Dwyer	C. E. Casey
70.	Dear Heart, We're Growing Old	H. M. Estabrooke
72.	Ellaline	H. K. Betts
74.	In Sweet September	H. Temple
76.	My Home by the Old Mill	M. J. O'Halloran
78.	Can You, Sweetheart, Keep a Secret?	H. M. Estabrooke
80.	See Those Living Pictures	R. Guth
82.	My Old Kentucky Home	S. C. Foster
84.	What Are the Wild Waves Saying? Duet	S. Glover
86.	When Winter Days Have Gone	J. H. Trayne
88.	Shall I Ever See My Mother's Face Again?	F. Adriance

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1.	Catherine Waltzes	D. W. Roth
3.	Schubert's Serenade. Transcription	Fr. Liszt
5.	Silvery Waves. Variations	A. P. Wyman
7.	Visions of Light Waltz	S. G. Cook
9.	Our Little Agnes Waltz	G. M. Gregoire
11.	American Liberty March	S. G. Cook
13.	General Smith's March	J. T. Martin
15.	The Old Oaken Bucket. Variations	C. W. Durkee
17.	Impassioned Dream Waltzes	J. Rosas
19.	Boston Commandery March	T. H. Carter
21.	Frolic of the Frogs Waltz	J. J. Watson
23.	In Hoc Signo Vinces. K. T. March	H. M. Dow
25.	Over the Waves Waltzes	J. Rosas
27.	Village Parade Quickstep	T. F. Allen
29.	Sweet Long Ago. Transcription	C. D. Blake
31.	Song of the Voyager	I. J. Paderewski
33.	Corn Flower Waltzes	C. Coote, Jr
35.	Black Hawk Waltz	M. E. Walsh
37.	Battle of Waterloo	G. Anderson
39.	Ruth, Esther and Marion Schott	A. M. Cohen
41.	Crack 4 March	G. Ashton
43.	Leap Year Schottische	O. Kahn
45.	March Winds Galop	D. Mansfield
47.	Cleveland's Second Term March	L. C. Noble
49.	Full of Ginger March	W. Nutting
51.	Blue-Bird Echo Waltz	M. Morrison
53.	Greeting of Spring	C. Schultze
55.	Memorial Day March	L. Hewitt
57.	Twilight Echoes	F. A. Jewell
59.	Wedding March	Mendelssohn
61.	Morning Star Waltz	F. E. Zahn
63.	McKinley & Hobart March	J. W. Turner
65.	Bells of Corneville. Potpourri	L. C. Elson
67.	Bryan & Sewall March	L. C. Noble
69.	Flirting in the Starlight Waltz	A. de Lasaide
71.	Crystal Dew Waltz	C. W. Durkee
73.	Storm Mazurka	W. T. Keefer
75.	Scherzettino, op. 48	A. Guilmant
77.	Fifth Nocturne	J. Leybach
79.	Please Do Waltz	C. W. Durkee
81.	Coming from the Races Galop	J. W. Wheeler
83.	Orretta Waltz	E. R. Spencer
85.	Winsome Grace. Morceau	T. H. Howe
87.	National Anthems of Eight Great Nations	

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WASHINGTON.

A MODERATE TARIFF BILL.

Exorbitant Demands of Some Interests Will Not Be Allowed.

Washington, Jan. 15.—The Republican tariff commissioners held no meeting yesterday, having encountered several perplexing points in the chemical schedule which they begun work on Wednesday night. Under the present plan every member has an opinion to give on every point that arises and progress is very slow. While there has been little discussion of the general character of the measure two or three underlying principles are understood. There is no question but that specific rates will be levied wherever possible. The bounty scheme it is understood will be abandoned with adequate duty on sugar. The principle of free raw materials will be disregarded. Wool is considered by the Republicans as the farmers' finished product which should be protected as the manufacturers products are, and lumber is also regarded as quite deserving of protection as other articles in which labor is a large element of cost.

A prominent member of the committee said:

"Two impressions are being instilled into the mind of the public which should be corrected. One of them is that we are merely re-enacting the McKinley bill with a few material amendments; the other is that the exhorbitant demands of some of the manufacturers and other representatives of special interests who appeared during the recent hearings will be granted them.

"The committee is preparing an independent tariff bill based on present considerations of business and present necessities for revenue and on the experience of the past. It will not be the McKinley bill. Rates of former acts which appear to be consistent with present conditions will be retained or reincorporated in the bill, but business considerations have changed in many lines in recent years and the present conditions will be the first factor considered. When the bill is finished and an average of rates struck it will be below the McKinley bill.

"As for the demands of special interests, the committee will not take any statements by interested parties for granted. In carrying the principle of protection into effect we will secure our information on business principles, cost of production and labor in the United States and foreign countries from the most reliable sources and so far as possible from disinterested parties and act in accordance with our judgment."

CENSUS FIGURES

Concerning People Who Work for a Living.

Washington, Jan. 18.—Much interesting data about the occupations of the American people is given in a delayed bulletin of the eleventh census, which has just been furnished the press. It shows that the total number of people engaged in occupations of all kinds in 1890 was 22,735,661. This is an increase of over 5,000,000 working people in a decade. The whole number of working people consists of those ten years old or over, and makes up over thirty-six per cent of the entire population and almost 47 per cent of all person ten years old and over.

Of the whole number of working people the females form 17.22 per cent. Divided by classes the working people of the country are as follows:

Agriculture, fisheries and mining, 9,013,336; professional, 944,333; domestic and personal service, 4,360,577; trade and transportation, 3,326,122; manufacturing and mechanical industries, 5,091,293.

The domestic and personal service includes hotel keepers, soldiers, sailors and marines, laborers, barbers, detectives, etc. The first named class is a ten years' gain of over a million, or of almost 3,000,000 for a score of years.

Considerably more than four-fifths of the illiterate male population of the country and over one-fourth of the illiterate female population are working. Over fifty-nine per cent of the working men are married, over thirty-seven single, over three per cent widowed, and one-quarter of one per cent divorced.

Many Cannot Speak English.

Of all foreign whites at work here fourteen per cent of the males and thirteen per cent of the females cannot speak English. There is an element of eight and one-half per cent of the men employed in domestic and personal service, who cannot speak English, and almost five per cent in the manufacturing and mechanical industries. Manufacturing and mechanics embrace the largest number of females who cannot speak English—over four per cent—with domestic service a close second.

In manufactures and mechanics the carpenters and joiners, numbering 611,482 make up the greatest element, with dressmakers and milliners following with 499,690. There are a little over one million bookkeepers, clerks and salesmen; 690,658 merchants and dealers; 5,281,557 farmers, planters and overseers, and 3,004,061 agricultural laborers, 349,592 miners and only a little over 60,000 fishermen and oystermen.

Professors and teachers aggregating 347,344 form the most numerous of the professional classes. Physicians and surgeons, 104,805, come next; the lawyers, 89,630; clergymen, 88,203; government officials, 79,664; musicians, etc., 62,155; engineers and surveyors, 43,239; artists and art teachers, 22,496; journalists, 21,849, and actors 9,728.

LAND BILL PASSED.

Settlers Will Have a Chance for Cheap Homes.

Washington, Jan. 16.—The Senate has by a vote of 35 to 11 passed the bill permitting 29,000,000 acres of land, which has cost the government $25,000,000 to be opened to homestead entry. All of the votes cast against it were from the Democratic side of the chamber except one, Mr. Platt, of Connecticut. The lands were bought from the Indians at various times within the past few years with the provision in the bills authorizing the purchase that the persons desiring to make homes upon them should pay the cost price per acre at the end of a five years' settlement thereon. It was urged, however, that as the lands of the government generally had been given freely to those desiring to settle on them it is injustice to the later generation of those desiring homes to require them to pay for lands owned by the government, especially as many of these tracts lie in arid or semi-arid sections where heavy expenditures are necessary to make them of value for homes and farming.

The lands which are opened to free entry by the bill, provided it passes the House in amended form, are as follows:

Great Sioux reservation, North and South Dakota and Nebraska, 8,550,938 acres, for which settlers were to pay from 50 cents to $1 per acre, according to location and value, under the terms of the act authorizing its purchase.

Lake Travers reservation, North and South Dakota, 573,882 acres, at a price of $2.50 per acre.

Yankton Sioux reservation, South Dakota, 151,692 acres, $3.75 per acre.

Fort Berthold reservation, North Dakato, 1,838,720 acres, $1.50 per acre.

Coeur d'Alene reservation, Idaho, 174,690 acres, $1.50 per acre.

Nez Perce reservation, Idaho, 550,556 acres, $3.75 per acre.

Cooville reservation, Washington, 1,416,668 acres, $1.50 per acre.

Siletz reservation, Oregon, 177,000 acres, $1.50 per acre.

Crow reservation, Montana, 1,700,000 acres, $1.50 per acre.

Chippewa reservation, Minnesota, 3,332,936 acres, $1.25 per acre.

Various reservations in Oklahoma, aggregating 10,514,550 acres, at prices ranging from $1 to $2.50 per acre.

DON'T WANT REFORMS.

Cubans Satisfied Only With Complete Independence.

Washington, Jan. 14.—M. Queseda, of the Cuban junta received a long letter to-day from his uncle Salvador de Cisneros, the president of the Cuban republic, which by inference give a denial to the reports that the insurgents are willing to negotiate terms of peace on any other terms than absolute independence. The letter says in part: "I am very glad to see that the people and Congress of the United States will continue to show sympathy for Cuba. I am preparing an appeal in which the government of the republic will ask for the recognition of independence of the island. We will renew our offensive campaign in a few days. Gomez has left me to enter Santa Clara with reinforcements and munitions of war. He will go farther west. Our situation is most prosperous, and if we have plenty of ammunition, not only for rifles but for cannon, and in Camaguey a dynamite cannon, the railroads would be destroyed, and the few garrisoned inland towns would be abandoned by the enemy and they would be confined to the coast. As I expect to receive these war materials from abroad, we very soon will drive them to the sea and be in a position to tell them when they depart our last good-bye."

Senor Queseda declares there is absolutely no truth in the reports of a pending compromise on a basis of home rule for the Cubans, and says: "The Cubans are determined to fall like men, rather than shamefully and with cowardice renounce by entering into and accepting any agreement which would mean the abandonment forever of the high ideal of complete emancipation. To all such projects the Cubans will respond now and always with their motto 'Independence or Death.'"

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report.

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

JOHN SHERMAN.

He Will Be McKinley's Secretary of State.

Washington, Jan. 14.—Senator Sherman has accepted the secretaryship of state in the McKinley administration.

This statement is made upon positive information and is not open to question or contradiction. The only question has been as to whether or not Mr. Sherman would accept without a pledge from Governor Bushnell of Ohio as to his successor in the senate. At first Senator Sherman was insistent upon having a promise from the governor that a man satisfactory to himself should be appointed in his place, preferably Mr. Hanna. But Mr. Sherman has now been induced to forego this action and he has accepted the secretaryship of state absolutely without conditions.

President-elect McKinley has insisted that the filling of the senatorial vacancy to be created by the resignation of Senator Sherman should not be taken into consideration at this time. He prefers to leave that to the good sense and the fair-mindedness of Governor Bushnell. Mr. McKinley does not like to have it said that there was any bargain as to who should be Mr. Sherman's successor in the senate. He has carried his point as to this, and Senator Sherman has given up his objections and accepted the secretaryship of state without regard to the identity of his successor.

At the same time there is every reason to believe that Mark Hanna will be Mr. Sherman's successor in the senate after March 4. Nothing has been heard from Governor Bushnell concerning his intentions in this respect, but it is assumed that Mr. Bushnell, being anxious for re-election to the governorship of Ohio, will not wish to antagonize the incoming federal administration by the appointment of a second or third rate man to the seat which John Sherman has filled so long.

As secretary of state, Mr. Sherman will round out a brilliant public career which began forty-two years ago in the house of representatives, and bring to that exalted post a ripe experience which covered four terms in the lower branch of Congress and six terms in the upper house besides four years at the head of the treasury department under Mr. Hayes' administration.

It is significant in connection with the knowledge that Mr. Sherman will be secretary of state, that General Russell A. Alger of Michigan, while here a few days ago, had a conference with the Ohio senator at which, it is understood, all of their past differences were adjusted and reconciled. This strengthens the belief that General Alger is also to be a member of Mr. McKinley's cabinet, the post he is to fill being that of secretary of war. Reports, however, also persistently associate the name of Senator Hawley of Connecticut with this portfolio.

NICARAGUAN CANAL

Will Occupy Some Time in the Senate.

Washington, Jan. 18.—The friends of the Nicaragua canal bill expect it to be taken up early in the week and that it will retain its place at the head of the calendar until disposed of. The bill will lead to considerable debate before voted on, but its advocates are very hopeful of its passage. Senator Morgan will have charge of the measure in the senate and will try to reach a vote before the end of the week. His success in that undertaking will depend upon whether there are many senators who desire to be heard on the bill. So far very few indicated an intention to speak.

Senator Perkins will make an effort, if opportunity offers, to get up the bill for a non-partisan labor commisson, and in this he will likely be antagonized by Senator Frye with the Hawaiian cable bill.

Senator Chandler will introduce the caucus bill for an international monetary conference on Monday and will ask to have it voted on on Tuesday without going through a committee.

Effort may be made in executive session to reopen the discussion of extradition treaties but this will be resisted by the committee on foreign relations.

In the House.

The coming week in the house is likely to be uneventful. There are no bills of great national importance on the house calendar which are to be debated until the supporters of the Nicaragua canal project should succeed in persuading the committe on rules to assign them one or more days for consideration of that measure.

Monday will be devoted to district of Columbia legislation.

On Tuesday Mr. McCall of Massachusetts, will bring up the Yost-Tucker election contest from the tenth district of Virginia. The committee report is in favor of Mr. Tucker, the sitting member, who is a Democrat. One day of the week will be given to the pension committee for the passage of the bills which have been reported to the house from the Friday night sessions.

PACIFIC ROADS.

Bill for a Commission Approved by Senate Committee.

Washington, Jan. 15.—The senate committee on Pacific railroads to-day by an unanimous vote authorized a favorable report on Senator Gear's bill providing for a commission of cabinet officials to settle the indebtedness of the Pacific railroads to the government. An amendment suggested by Senator Morgan was adopted. It is as follows:

"That said commission in making any settlement under this act shall reserve to congress the right to regulate or prescribe the rates of tolls or charges for the transportation of freights or passengers to be charged on any or all of said railroads, and all other rights and powers in respect of said railroads and railroad companies as thew now exist."

Senator Gear will report the bill to the senate Monday but will make no effort to secure consideration until the house acts on the similar bill which it has under consideration. The is however very hopeful that the present bill will receive the approval of both houses.

CIVIL SERVICE.

Schedule of Examinations for the Next Six Months.

Washington, Jan. 14.—The civil service commission has completed its schedule of examinations throughout the country for the next six months. Legal residents of the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia will not be admitted to the clerk-copyist, messenger, watchman, stenography or type-writing examinations because of their excessive share of appointments. This is an annual announcement. The first examinations of the season are on March 17 at Wilmington, Del.; Washington, D. C.; Cincinnati, Pittsburg and Richmond, Va. The last examinations are on April 26, at points in almost every state. There are six routes to be covered by the examiners of the commission.

THE NEW TREATY.

Senate Not Pleased With Secretary Olney's Style.

Washington, Jan. 16.—Secretary Olney seems likely to find out that the Congress of the United States is a co-ordinate branch of the government, despite his assertions to the contrary, and that while one man as an officer of the government has considerable power, in certain matters he is not all powerful. His arbitration treaty which he took the liberty to lay before the people of England before he gave it to those of his own country, seems likely to have a pretty rocky road to travel before it gets action by the Senate which he has taken occasion to insult more than once in the past few weeks.

His interview on the Cuban question, prepared for publication and flaunted in the face of Congress, was the subject of scathing criticism from a Democratic member of the Senate in a public speech, and in the privacy of the foreign relations committee room his arbitration treaty was subjected to such an overhauling that it appears at once that it is likely to be very elaborately discussed and sharply criticised even before a vote is permitted upon it.

Mr. Olney has done some good work as secretary of state, but he has more than offset it by his course of the past few weeks, in which he has destroyed, by his arbitrary and insolent treatment of Congress the influence with that body which he might otherwise have had. The feeling which was created by his interview a few weeks ago, in assuming that the President was independent of Congress in matters pertaining to recognition of foreign governments, is intensified by the fact that he gave to the representative of the London Chronicle a full copy of the treaty of arbitration which he had just transmitted to the Senate for its secret consideration, thus violating the long established rule by which treaties are considered confidential until the Senate shall act upon them and choose to make them public.

Moving Slowly.

By doing this Mr. Olney has increased the probability that the treaty will not be confirmed. It is not probable, of course, that the Senate would reject an important proposition, relating to peace between two great nations, for so small a matter as this, but the incident, coming immediately after the one which many members of that body had taken as a personal affront, increases materially the disposition to examine closely and somewhat critically the treaty which would have met with a very different reception under other circumstances.

The unwillingness of the Senate to submit to the slightest dictation or suggestion from Mr. Olney was shown when it, without hesitation, in executive session, refused to accede to his request to reconsider its action in rejecting the extradition treaty with the Orange Free State.

The foreign relations committee has taken up the arbitration treaty, but made so little progress as to show that there is a disposition to look at it in all lights before action. Talks with members of the committee and other Senators show a general disposition to move very slowly, and to criticise many of its features. Many of the Senators say that the treaty is unsatisfactory, and concedes altogether too much to Great Britain, to say nothing of the fact that the formation of the commissions of arbitration which it proposes, and the rules which are to govern them, are such that the treaty would probably be of little practical value. By many the prediction is freely made that it will not be confirmed.

CUBA IN THE SENATE.

There is No More Fire-Eating Talk of War.

Washington, Jan. 16.—Considerable gossip is indulged in at the Senate end of the capitol over Senator Cameron's course in delaying to offer or press for consideration his Cuban resolution. Just why it is that the senator has changed his plans in regard to the matter is not known. It was supposed that he would be on hand to call it up and press for action as soon as the Senate re-assembled after the holidays, but it is now over a week since the Senate resumed its sessions, and the matter has not been called up or action even seriously discussed. Mr. Cameron returned from his gunning trip on Monday, and has been at his residence in the city since that time, but has not put in an appearance at the Senate chamber, or indicated, so far as can be learned, the slightest interest in the matter. Meantime the sentiment in favor of the resolution seems to have largely disappeared, and the members of the foreign relations committee and those of the Senate smile wearily when it is spoken of, and say frankly that there seems no desire to press the matter at present.

Of course this means that there is little probability of its passage. The disposition of those opposing it is to discuss all phases of the question in case it ever comes up, though they are perfectly content to let it alone in its present state, and with little more than six weeks of Congress remaining there seems very little prospect that it will be possible to force action upon it in both houses of Congress. Meantime everybody is waiting for Senator Cameron to act, and nobody seems to be quite able to fathom his course in delaying the discussion of a subject in which both he and the people of the country evinced so much interest three weeks ago.

AN EXPLICIT DENIAL.

Spain Has Made No Agreement With Uncle Sam.

Washington, Jan. 14.—It is positively and authoritatively denied that the United States and Spain have practically concluded an agreement regarding terms to be offered the insurgents for the settlement of the Cuban rebellion.

It is denied also that a special envoy of Spain has been or is to be sent to the United States shortly as a private negotiator with special instructions from Senor Canovas, the Duke of Tetuan.

It is said that this latter report probably arises from the fact that Senor Solar has arrived in Washington recently, to succeed one of the secretaries of the legation. Senor Solar was formerly the secretary to the Duke of Tetuan, and when his coming was first announced a report similar to the present one was circulated and officially denied.

FOR SETTLERS.

Another Bill Affecting Public Land Entries.

Washington, Jan. 18.—Representative Meiklejohn, from the committee on public lands, has submitted a favorable report on a bill, the object of which is to relieve settlers on Sioux lands opened to settlement in North and South Dakota and Nebraska. Under the law many settlers, after 14 months' residence, secured lands by paying the Indian price for land.

The secretary of the interior afterwards ruled that such settlers must pay an additional price of $1.25 per acre. It will be impossible for them to pay this amount, says the report, and the lands will become vacant, and if this takes place it is doubtful if they will again be occupied, as they are arid lands and only fit for grazing.

FRANCIS CONFIRMED.

At Last the Senate Approves Secretary of the Interior.

Washington, Jan. 19.—Secretary Francis's nomination was confirmed by the Senate in executive session yesterday. No opposition to confirm action was made and no vote was taken. Senator Vest stated that he could add nothing to what he had already said and that he had no objection for farther delaying action upon the nomination.

Other nominations confirmed were: Frederick Treon, of Crow Creek, S. D., to be agent for the Indians for the Crow Creek agency; postmasters, William R. R. Hamilton, of Warren, Ind., also a large number of promotions in the navy.

Russian Census.

Washington, Jan. 19.—For the first time in the history of Russia an attempt is being made to count the inhabitants and an imperial decree translated and sent to the state department by United States Consul General Karel at St. Petersburg contains the formal order for a complete census and the supputation must be completed by Feb. 9.

Want a Moth Exterminator.

Washington, Jan. 18.—The German millers have offered a prize of $250 for a method of destroying the meal moth which has been ravaging German mills. United States Consul General De Kay, of Berlin, offers to deliver to the proper authorities any method forwarded by Americans.

Boundaries Fixed.

Washington, Jan. 19.—A decree was entered by the supreme court fixing the boundary line between the states of Iowa and Missouri in accordance with the findings of the commissioners appointed by the court to fix the line.

Treasury Statement.

Washington, Jan. 19.—Yesterday's statement of the condition of the treasury shows: Available cash balance, $229,768,847; gold reserve, $141,945,510.

MADDEN DROPS OUT.

Chicago Alderman Withdraws From Senatorial Race.

Springfield, Ill., Jan. 15.—Martin B. Madden, the Chicago alderman, who has been one of the leading candidates in the senatorial contest, withdrew from the race last night, throwing his support to ex-Congressman William E. Mason, of Chicago, who had been his most prominant rival for Senator Palmer's seat. Mr. Madden's candidacy had been bitterly fought by the anti-machine element of the state, but up to the moment of his announced withdrawal it had been supposed that he would go into the caucus well backed by supporters.

Although Mr. Mason's forces have been greatly strengthened by Madden's withdrawal, the other candidates do not admit his election. The Cook county members last night sprung Congressman William Lorimer, of Chicago, as a candidate, but several other members bolted the caucus.

With every train that has left Springfield to-day has gone a crowd of tired politicians, scarcely a handful of legislators assembling in the House this morning when the speaker called that body to order, and they only remained in session long enough for the chaplain to call upon the Lord to bless them. When this official had finished his duties, an adjournment was taken until 5 o'clock Monday evening. A similar session was held in the Senate, and from now until Monday Springfield will be practically deserted. In the struggle for the United States Senatorship the political leaders have been for the most part working night and day for the last 48 hours, and to them a cessation of hostilities until Monday comes as an acceptable relief.

Alderman Martin B. Madden, who withdrew from the contest last night in favor of ex-Congressman W. E. Mason, slept until 10 o'clock this morning. He came down stairs at the hotel looking cheerful, and said: "I shall go home feeling satisfied that my friends were faithful to me, and shall resume my former position in life with none but the best of feelings for all."

Mr. Madden left the city on the 11 o'clock train for Chicago. Congressman Lorimer opened his headquarters as a candidate this morning, and unless he changes his mind, he will remain here during the legislative recess.

The millionaire packer, Samuel W. Allerton, was the first Senatorial candidate to appear in public this morning. He was unusually jovial, and said that the withdrawal of Madden had greatly increased his chances of success.

Springfield, Ill., Jan. 19.—The Republican joint caucus for the nomination of a successor to Senator John M. Palmer was held last night. The fight since the convening of the legislature has been a bitter one and unusual interest was manifested in the outcome by the crowds which thronged the state house corridors and struggled for positions near the caucus chamber.

Two ballots were taken without resulting in a choice.

The first ballot resulted as follows: Ex-Congressman W. E. Nelson, of Chicago, 46; Congressman Lorimer, of Chicago, 39; ex-Congressman Hitt, 12; Congressman Hopkins, of Aurora, 6; C. E. Carr, of Springfield, 10; S. W. Allerton, of Chicago, 1; George E. Adams, of Chicago, 2; Congressman Joseph Cannon, of Danville, 10.—Necessary to a choice, 64

The second ballot was as follows: Mason 45, Lorimer 40, Hitt 16, Hopkins 6, Carr 6, Allerton 1, Adams 1, Cannon 11.

At the conclusion of the second ballot adjournment was taken until this evening.

No Quorum Voting.

Springfield, Ill., Jan. 19.—Long before the hour set for the meeting of the joint assembly to-day, the galleries were packed with visitors, who had come to hear the nominating speeches. The first to take the floor was Representative O'Donnell, of Bloomington. He placed in nomination for United States Senator, in behalf of the Democratic members, ex-Gov. John P. Altgeld. O'Donnell was frequently interrupted by applause, but the concluding sentence of his speech brought forth a cheer from both sides of the house and the gallery as well. He had been reiterating the virtues of ex-Gov. Altgeld, and in conclusion said:

"If the motives of men are known in heaven, then the angels speak his name in sweetest accents."

Representative Blood, one of the Populist members, seconded the nomination of Altgeld.

A number of other addresses were made in praise of ex-Gov. Altgeld. The Republicans refrained from speech making, and also refrained from voting, excepting that one vote cast was for each of the Republican candidates. Gov. Altgeld received the full Democratic vote. No quorum having voted, each house adjourned until to-morrow.

THOMAS C. PLATT.

He Will Be the Next Senator From New York.

Albany, N. Y., Jan. 15.—Without the usual formula of a nominating speech, last night, with no word of eulogy, but with a strength of votes most overwhelming, Thomas C. Platt was named for United States Senator by a vote of 147 to 7 for Joseph H. Choate. The two gentlemen were absent.

Seldom, if ever, has the assembly chamber presented such a lively scene. Long before the hour for assemblage arrived, the galleries were filled with visitors. Before the ballot was taken a resolution was adopted to make the choice of the caucus binding on all Republican members. The ballot resulted as already stated, and the nomination was made unanimous amid applause.

Few men have been more in the public eye during the last fifteen years than Thomas C. Platt. His entrance into national prominence in 1881 was under conditions so unusual that his earlier public career and his prominence as a banker and merchant have been generally forgotten. In 1872, when 39 years of age, he was elected a Representative to Congress, and again in 1874. He was elected to the United States Senate in succession to Francis Kernan, his term beginning March 4, 1881. In May of the same year, in consequence of a quarrel with President Garfield, over the distribution of patronage in New York state, Senators Conkling and Platt resigned from the Senate, expecting to be re-elected, instead of which, the places they had vacated were given to Messrs. Lapham and Miller. He has been a delegate to all of the Republican national conventions, beginning with that of 1876, and including that of last year. He has been the recognized director of the Republican organization in New York state for the last twelve or thirteen years, and although his title to supremacy has been frequently attacked, he has as often demonstrated his ability to hold it against all comers.

Mr. Platt is the president of the United States Express company. He is in his 64th year.

Radway's Pills

Purely vegetable, mild and reliable. For the cure of all disorders of the Stomach, Liver, Bowels, Kidneys, Bladder, Female Irregularities, Sick Headache, Biliousness, Constipation, Piles, one of Radway's Pills is sufficient to keep the bowels regular and secure PERFECT DIGESTION, and one of Radway's Pills will accomplish a better purpose than six of the ordinary drastic pills. A few doses will prove the correctness of this statement. Sold by Druggists, 25c a box, or by mail. RADWAY & Co., New York.

HON. A. S. WILLIS DEAD.

He Was United States Minister to Hawaii.

San Francisco, Jan. 15.—The steamer Monowai, which arrived at midnight, brought advices from Honolulu to the effect that United States Minister Albert S. Willis died at 9:30 a. m. on January 6th, after an illness covering several months, resulting from an attack of pneumonia he suffered while on his vacation to the United States.

In April last the minister and his family left Hawaii for a visit to their old home at Louisville. While in San Francisco on the return trip, the minister contracted a severe cold, which settled upon his lungs. This was the immediate cause of his death. At noon on October 1, while leaving church, his horse ran away and threw him to the ground. He was taken to a physician's office and soon recovered sufficiently to return to his home at Waikiki. He never left it again.

Soon after the death of the minister all the consular governments and shipping flags were lowered to half mast. Expressions of regret were general, and the wife and son have the sympathy of the whole community.

At the request of Mrs. Willis the funeral services took place at the Central Union church on January 7. The details of the funeral were left to United States Consul General and Charge d'Affaires Ellis Mills, at whose request the governmen took the funeral in hand. The funeral procession was the most imposing since that of Kalakaua.

The remains were deposited temporarily in a vault at Nuuanu cemetery until the 13th inst., when the casket was to be placed on board the steamship Australia for transportation to the United States.

In 1893 Mr. Willis received the appointment as minister to Hawaii; he accepted and assumed the post. Mr. Willis arrived at the island during the most critical moment in its history. Queen Liliuokalani had been deposed, and another government had taken the place of the monarchy.

The most intense interest existed as to what course the President would adopt. Mr. Cleveland intrusted his secret orders to Mr. Willis, and they were to the effect that Queen Lil should be reinstated in the event of her granting immunity to all political offenders. This she declined to do. The recent state of affairs is well known.

In 1876 Mr. Willis married Miss Florence Bulaney. They have one son, Albert S. Willis, jr., who is at Honolulu.

M'KINLEY TO WASHINGTON.

Make-Up of Trains Arranged and Time Schedule Made.

Cleveland, O., Jan. 16.—The programme for the running of the special trains that will carry President-elect McKinley and his escort to Washington was arranged yesterday and announced by Col. George A. Garretson, the chairman of the transportation and escort committee. The plans, it was said, would be submitted to the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. The Presidential train will leave Canton about 2 p. m. March 1, and reach Washington at 11 a. m. the following day. At President-elect McKinley's special request the train will run on slow time.

The train will consist of two private cars, one baggage car, a dining car, and a car for the newspaper men and members of the transportation committee. Mr. McKinley will be accompanied by his wife, mother, brother, and nieces. The Eighth Regiment of the Ohio National Guard, which will officiate as the military escort of the President-elect, will leave Canton at noon on March 1, and about the same time Troop A, of this city, which will act as Mr. McKinley's personal escort, will leave over the Cleveland & Pittsburg railroad and join the Eighth Regiment at Alliance, continuing the journey in advance of the next President.

It was reported yesterday that Mr. Hanna might go to Canton within a few days to confer with Mr. McKinley. Major Dick, at the headquarters, said that he had heard nothing of the rumor, and he did not know when Mr. Hanna would again leave the city, nor where he would go when he did leave.

IOWA LEGISLATURE.

Extra Session May Take Up the Liquor Laws.

Des Moines, Ia., Jan. 19.—The Iowa legislature convened to-day in extra session. It is the eighth extra meeting that has been held since Iowa took the first step toward statehood by becoming a territory. In his proclamation Governor Drake sets forth that the special business is the revision of the code, but under the constitution of the state the legislature in extra session can take up any matter it may desire, and a flood of bills is looked for.

It is given out that a strong effort will be made to so amend the liquor laws as to permit the manufacture of liquors within the state for lawful purposes, this being necessary because, while the state law permits the sale of liquors under a modified local option plan, the old prohibitory law, which gave way to the present mulct law, is still in force so far as manufacturing is concerned. Governor Drake has given it out that, while he is not desirous of seeing a manufacturing bill pass, yet he will not veto one should it come before him.

The Republicans have everything their own way in the present legislature, the senate standing forty-three Republicans and seven Democrats and the house seventy-nine Republicans and twenty-one Democrats.

TOO MANY COTTON GOODS.

Movement to Curtail Manufacturing in New England.

Boston, Jan. 15.—The movement begun some time ago to curtail the production in cotton manufacturing in New England has become active and steps are taking to sound the principal manufacturers on the question. The promoters of the plan represent several mills in Fall River and M. C. D. Borden, of New York, the largest owner of mills in that city has already been consulted. It is understood that Mr. Borden favors a reduction in running time to about fort-two hours a week, providing the action is general.

The pricipal objection to the movement comes from business men and some manufacturers who say a forty-hours-week schedule would not be of a sufficient help to the general market to warrant its adoption.

In view of these conditions it is believed no general agreement for a forty-hour schedule will be signed in Fall River until other New England manufacturing centers are heard from. A committee has been appointed in that city to visit Rhode Island, Lowell and Manchester mills to obtain their views. It is understood that several large corporations in these places favor the reduction.

WILLIS'S FUNERAL.

Largest in Honolulu Since the Burial of the King.

Honolulu, Jan. 10, via San Francisco, Jan. 18.—The funeral of Albert Willis, United States minister to Hawaii, was held on the 8th inst., under direction of President Dole and members of the cabinet. The funeral procession was the most imposing since the burial of the late King Kalakaua.

Mr. Willis' remains will rest in a vault until the 13th, when they will be placed on board the steamship Australia to be taken to America. The Hawaiian government will probably send a military escort.

It's a Boy.

Paris, Jan. 18.—The Countess Castellane, formerly Miss Anna Gould, gave birth to a son at noon to-day. Mother and child are doing well.

Miss Gould was married to Count [illegible]

TROUBLE IN ALASKA.

Russians Complain of Bad Treatment by Traders.

New York, Jan. 13.—A despatch to the Herald from Paris says: The St Petersburg correspondent of the European edition of the Herald writes that serious complaint against the existing state of affairs in Alaska are brought by the Svet.

It is alleged that the handful of Russians remaining in the territory suffer under all sorts of vexations and even oppressive acts on the part of American traders who "run" Alaska.

It is claimed that a number of the company's agents entered a Greek orthodox church during service with firearms in their hands to drive the congregation out to work, and that the Russian teacher having refused to give his lessons in English, Americans threatened to burn down his school. General condemnation is brought against the government at Washington for leaving the administration of Alaska too much in the hands of a trading company, which, it is claimed, finds its interest in debauching the natives.

Religious Troubles.

Another special to the Herald from Washington says: Absolutely no official information has been received in Washington in regard to the reported outrage perpetrated on Russian residents of the territory of Alaska by the North American Commercial Company. The State and Treasury departments have heard nothing from their representatives in Alaska and Russia on the subject. The statement that agents of the company invaded a Russian school and chapel may have some basis. State Department officials believe in the religious troubles existing in Alaska. There are three classes of schools in Alaska—the first territorial schools under the direct supervision of the government; the second, orthodox Russian schools governed by Archbishop Nicholas, of the Russian Greek church, who is a close personal friend of Emperor Nicholas, and which the United States is obligated by treaty provisions to protect, and, third, the unorthodox Russian schools. The Russian government last August protested to the State Department at the action of the unorthodox Russian school authorities in seeking the withdrawal of pupils from the orthodox schools. The State Department turned the matter over to the Treasury Department with instructions to investigate the matter, and its report so far as can be learned has not yet been received at the department.

ON THE GREAT LAKES.

War Vessels May Be Built, Says Olney.

Washington, Jan. 16.—An important conference was held yesterday between Secretary Olney and Representative William Alden Smith, of Michigan, concerning the treaty stipulations which prohibits the construction of war vessels on the great lakes.

Mr. Smith, several weeks ago, introduced a resolution calling upon the State department for information as to this treaty prohibition, and he has since followed up the matter vigorously. He said yesterday that the treaty of Ghent did not prohibit either the government of the United States or that of Great Britain from constructing war vessels on the lakes, and that he felt certain that the memoranda bearing upon the point which had been exchanged by the two governments could very easily be set aside.

Mr. Olney and Mr. Smith went carefully over the whole question, and the secretary was so impressed by the arguments of the Michigan congressman that he promised to prepare a statement of the matter to submit to Congress, if it was desired. Secretary Olney is quite convinced that an arrangement by which war vessels of light draft may be constructed on the lakes can without serious difficulty be brought about. He is inclined to the opinion that it is a matter to be rectified by the State department, and not by legislative action, inasmuch as the memoranda bearing upon the subject were not of the kind requiring ratification by the Senate.

"SHOOT TO KILL!"

Order for the Benefit of Train Robbers.

Chicago, Jan. 13.—Express and railroad managers have sent to messengers and train guards a letter, which if the offers made are carried into effect, may cause train robbers to hesitate before they determine to hold up a train. These letters instruct the men to shoot to kill in each and every case where robbery is clearly the intent of anyone who interferes with the running of a train, and a cash reward of $500 is held out for each robber shot but not killed, and $1,000 for a Jesse James emulator who is made to bite the dust.

A general changing of shooting irons has been going on for some time. The most improved pattern of repeating rifles and riot guns have taken the place of the arms of less deadly and rapid execution. Cars are also being built with an eye to more resistance against the onslaught of train robbers. Floors and sides are reinforced with iron plates, and doors made heavier with stronger fastenings. The gang that successfully holds up a train during the present year must risk considerably more than heretofore.

LOST PASSENGERS.

Railroads Investigating Two Very Mysterious Disappearances.

Montreal, Jan. 13.—For several days past the Canadian Pacific railway officials have been trying to locate G. V. Nyman, who bought a ticket on Nov. 10 from Minneapolis to New York, but who while on his way east was missed shortly after passing St. Martin Junction. His luggage was brought to Montreal and after waiting two weeks for the owner to turn up his valise was opened which revealed the fact that he had bought a ticket for Hamburg.

The Grand Trunk officials have a similar case. On Nov. 1 a man giving the name of Peter Hansen was transferred from the Canadian Pacific to the Grand Trunk. He also had a ticket from Minneapolis to New York and was en route to Germany, but owing to his eccentric conduct was put in jail for eight days. He left a silver watch, $45 in cash, and a certified check with the police and a valise and box with the Grand Trunk authorities, all of which remain unclaimed.

CAME TOO LATE.

Inmate of a Philadelphia Asylum Inherits a Big Estate.

Phoenixville, Pa., Jan. 15.—A legacy of $1,000,000 has been bequeathed by the late paper manufacturing magnate, Augustus Smith of New York to Mrs. John P. Janeway, a Phoenixville widow, who is now a patient in Kirkbridge's Asylum, Philadelphia.

Millionaire Smith, who died recently was a bachelor, and Mrs. Janeway was one of his favorite nieces. By the terms of the will the fortune is hers in trust only. At the end of her life her children are to receive the entire $1,000,000.

Mrs. Janeway's great fortune comes, however, after two greater misfortunes. Her husband died some months ago, and then, very recently, her greif so overcame the widow that her mind gave way, and she was sent to Kirkbridge's Asylum. There, it is hoped, a change may be effected.

FIFTEEN DEAD.

As a Result of That Awful Holocaust at Dallas.

Dallas, Tex., Jan. 18.—Fifteen little girls and boys are dead as a result of the fire at the Buckner orphan home, and nine others are seriously burned and crushed. Three of the injured, it is thought, cannot recover. The fulness of the holocaust was not discovered and fully realized until the search began for the bodies Saturday.

I CURE FITS

When I say I cure I do not mean merely to stop them for a time and then have them return again. I mean a radical cure. I have made the disease of FITS, EPILEPSY or FALLING SICKNESS a life-long study. I warrant my remedy to cure the worst cases. Because others have failed is no reason for not now receiving a cure. Send at once for a treatise and a Free Bottle of my infallible remedy. Give Express and Postoffice address. [illegible]

Markets and Crops.

THE TRADE REVIEW.

Prosperity May Certainly Be Seen Ahead.

New York, Jan. 16.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade says:

The greatest growth and prosperity the country has ever seen, came suddenly in 1879, after several months of disappointment because specie resumption had not yet brought the benefits expected. It is not the largest and most powerful vessel that can be started most quickly; and it takes time for new confidence to reach through easier money markets, large orders, resuming mills, expanding employment and larger distribution to the results which make still greater and lasting gain possible. Some gradual and steady improvement has been in progress for more than two months.

Best of all, there is so little crazy excitement that the gain may be ascribed to the deliberate judgment of the ablest and most prudent men in business.

The output of pig iron has gained 12.3 per cent in December and 41.6 per cent since October 1. The output of coke has increased 88.7 per cent since October 1st. Sales of wood have again become large, though not yet fully reported. Money markets feel a steady increase in demand for commercial and manufacturing loans. Additional works have gone into operation each week in January, and the working force is larger than at any other time for six months. It is not a time of high prices. Many who were anxious to get early hold on the market are making for the moment lower prices than they could afford to maintain. Some have secured orders enough for months to come, and begin to be less keen in competition. With the increase in output of pig iron to 159,720 tons weekly, against 142,278 last month, the price is a shade lower at the East and Chicago, but heavy purchases already advance Bessemer a shade at Pittsburg. Steel bars have reduced to one cent, and some other finished products $1 per ton, but the demand on the whole is steadily growing. The coke output has risen from 50,000 to 94,432 tons weekly, and minor metals are a shade stronger.

Textile manufactures are not encouraged by the demand for goods which scarcely increase. But some mode of clearing away the enormous surplus has become a necessity. Lower prices are expected in goods, and slow buying is not unnatural since cotton has fallen 18.8 per cent from September 11; print cloths 7 per cent; bleached goods, 3½ to 5½, and brown goods, 2½, 3 and 4 per cent. Though woolen goods do not improve there have been enormous purchases of wool by large mills, not on the records, which cover for two weeks of January, 11,110,300 pounds at the three chief markets, against 11,817,600 last year, and 10,678,815 in 1895. Some large purchases of leather, including 10,000 sides of grain, indicate that some shoe manufacturers are seeing their way to more active work, and shipments from the East in January thus far are 20 per cent larger than last year. Hides at Chicago are 2⅓ per cent lower.

The wheat market has varied but slightly, closing ¼ of a cent lower. Western receipts for the week, 1,505,320 bushels against 2,916,274 bushels last year, are checked by stores and by current prices in view of farmers' expectations. Atlantic exports were 1,456,408 bushels, flour included, and for two weeks, 3,483,317 bushels, against 4,483,190 last year. December exports were 10,856,519 bushels, Atlantic, flour included, a gain of 2,701,000, and 5,112,018 Pacific, a gain of 1,057,000 bushels. Traders begin to realize that enormous exports of corn are taking the place of wheat in foreign consumption, and will lessen the demand if wheat becomes dearer.

Cotton took a rise of an eighth on traders' estimate without change in conditions.

Failures for the week have been 455 in the United States against 395 last year, and 71 in Canada, against 81 last year.

REVIEW OF WEEK'S BUSINESS.

OFFICE OF THE TOLEDO BLADE,
Toledo, O., Jan. 19 1897.

The following shows changes in government bonds during the past week:

	Jan 19	Jan [illegible]
U. S. 4's (new), coupons	121¼	120½
U. S. 4's (new), registered	[illegible]	[illegible]
U. S. 5's, coupons	114½	114
U. S. 5's, registered	112⅝	114
U. S. 4's, coupons	111¾	111½
U. S. 4's, registered	111¼	110¾
U. S. 2's, registered	95¾	95½
Pacific 6's of '98	102⅝	102¼

Condition of the Grain Trade at the Close To-Day.

There were dull markets at the opening this morning, in sympathy with Liverpool, which was off ¼d. There was a feeble effort made to put prices up as trade proceeded, but light exports and a still further decline in cables caused a downward tendency, and the markets closed at the lowest point of the day. Trade was not largely extended.

Corn was dull, and the changes during the day were slight. There were liberal receipts at Chicago. At Chicago January corn was worth 22¼c; May, 24¼c, 24½c, 24¼@24⅜c; July, 25¼c; close, 25¼@25⅜c. At New York May corn opened at 30c bid, steadied to 30⅛@30¼c, and closed at 30c asked.

Prices of wheat to-day:

May.	Opened.	Highest.	Lowest.	Close.
Toledo	92⅝	93	92⅝	92⅞
Chicago	79⅞	80⅛	79½	b79½
New York	86¼	86½	86	b86
St. Louis	86	86⅜	85½-⅝	85½-⅝

At Chicago January wheat was worth 77¼c to close; July, 75⅝c, close 75⅝@75⅞c. At New York July wheat opened at 82⅝c, rose to 83¼c, and closed at 82⅝c asked.

Bradstreet's shows: Wheat east of the Rockies decreased 1,261,000 bushels; Europe decreased 2,808,000 bushels; corn increased 1,334,000 bushels; oats increased 448,000 bushels.

Pork for May at Chicago opened at $8.05 and closed at $7.90@7.92.

Oats at Chicago for January, 15¾c; close, 15¾c; May, 18¾c; close, 18@18⅛c.

Estimated receipts at Chicago for to-morrow: Wheat, 17 cars; corn, 223 cars; oats, 153 cars.

The official world's shipments last week were 4,132,000 bushels; Russian shipments of wheat, 1,048,000 bushels; corn, 8,000 bushels.

The world's visible wheat last year, according to Bradstreet's decreased 1,937,000 bushels; that will be about the decrease to-day.

Primary receipts to-day: Wheat, 233,000 bushels; same time last year, 279,000; shipments, 187,000; same time last year, 170,000 bushels. Receipts of corn, 429,000 bushels; same time last year, 769,000. Shipments, 221,000 bushels; same time last year, 260,000.

Liverpool wheat opened ¼d lower.

Inspected in to-day: Wheat, cars—No. 2 soft red, 7; No. 3 soft red, 2; rejected No. red, 4; no grade, 3. Total, 16. Corn, cars—No. 2, 30; No. 3, 16; No. 4, 4; No. 2 yellow, 5; No. 3 yellow, 15; No. 2 white, 4; No. 3 white, 4. Total, 78. Oats—No. 2 white, 1; No. 3 white, 2. Total, 3. Rye—none.

Receipts in the Northwest to-day: Wheat, 135,106 bushels; on track, 268 cars, same time last year, 342.

London cargoes wheat, nothing offering; on passage quiet for white, easy for red. Cargoes corn nothing offering; on passage, quiet but steady. English country markets quiet; French, steady; American wheat parcels, 3d lower.

Puts on May wheat at 1:30 this afternoon at Chicago, 78⅝@79c; calls, 80⅛c.

Export clearances of wheat to-day, 92,269 bushels; flour, 16,130 barrels; or wheat and flour as wheat, 164,654 bushels.

World's shipments last week: Wheat, 4,132,000 bushels. Russian shipments: Wheat, 1,048,000 bushels; corn, 8,000 bushels.

A private wire house has a message from its Washington correspondent saying that the winter wheat area is 24 million acres and quotes the statistician. The latter was giving up no secrets. He announced the area December 10 as 23,986,000 acres.

The Close at Toledo—Wheat Lower.

At the close to-day at the Toledo Produce Exchange cash wheat was ⅜c lower, May ⅛c, and July ⅜c decline. Trade moderate, comparatively speaking, and prices closed a little weak.

No. 2 soft red wheat, 91½c; No. 3 soft red, 87½c; rejected No. 1 red, 81½c and afterward 83½c; May wheat, 92⅞c, 93c, and finally 92⅞c; July, 79¼c, and to close, 79c.

Corn—Fair Business, Steady.

There was a fair business done in corn at steady figures. No. 2 mixed corn, 22c; No. 3 corn, 21c; No. 4, 20c; No. 3 yellow opened trade at 22¼c; No. 2 May, 24⅝c.

Oats steady. No. 2 mixed, 17½c; No. 2 May, 18⅝c, and to close 18½c.

Rye dull. No. 2, nominally 37½c.

Clover seed dull, steady. Prime March, $5.32½; prime alsike, $4.65. Receipts, 268 bags; shipments, 20 bags.

Toledo Produce Market.

There was a better attendance at the market to-day than on yesterday, and products were more plentiful. Butter is steady and in good supply. Eggs show no signs of improvement. The supply is ample. Poultry is in fair demand, but there is no alteration in prices. In other products there is but little that is new.

Butter—Ohio and Michigan creamery, 18@19c; dairy, 14c; Elgin butter, 20c.

Eggs—Fresh, 14@15c.

Cheese—Full cream, [illegible]

Vegetables—Potatoes, [illegible] sweet potatoes, [illegible] beets, bu., 25c; carrots, bu., 25c; parsnips, bu., 25c; beans, bu., 90c; cabbage, home grown, doz., 50c; Holland cabbages, lb., 1¼c; turnips, bu., 20c; rutabagos, bu., 25c.

Poultry—Chickens, dressed, lb., 7½@8½c; turkeys, dressed, 12@12½c; ducks, dressed, 10½@11½c; geese, dressed, 9½@10½c.

Fruits—Pine apples, doz., $1.25@2.00; apples, bu., 25@40c; lemons, box, $2.50@3.50; oranges, box, $3.50@4.50; cranberries, qt., 9 cents.

Apple-butter, per gallon, 50c.

Dresesd Meats—Hogs, per 100 lbs., $3.50@4.00; beef, lb., 3½@7c; sheep, lb., 5@5½c; lambs, lb., 6@6½c; veal, lb., 6½@7c.

Smoked Meats—Hams, sugar-cured, heavy, lb., 9c; light hams, 9½@10c; mess pork, $7; short mess, 9c; short clear, 10c; breakfast bacon, rib, 8½c; clear, 10c; bologna sausage, lb., 5c; pork sausage, lb., 5c; home made country sausage, lb., 10c; scrapple, lb., 8c.

Timothy Seed—$1.60@1.75, as to quality.

Wool—Unwashed, 8@13c; washed, 12@16c; tub washed, 17c.

Lard—No. 1 kettle, cans, 3, 5 and 10 lbs., 7c; 50 lbs., 6c.

Hay—Car lots, choice timothy, ton, $10; No. 1 hay, $9.50; No. 2 hay, $8.50.

Straw—Car lots, bright rye, $6.00; wheat straw, $5.00; oat straw, $5.00.

Corn fodder, shredded, $5.00@6.00.

Feed—Bran, ton, $9; middlings, $10; chop feed, ton, car lots, $12; car lots, No. 2, $10; coarse meal, $10.

Ear corn, bushel, 15c; shelled corn, bu., 30c.

Flour—Spring patent, bbl., $4.70@5.25; winter patents, $5.00@5.50; winter straight, $4.50@5.00; buckwheat flour, per ton, $30.

Rock salt, ton, $7; pork packing salt, bbl., 90c; eastern salt, $1; Michigan, 75c.

Hides—Green, No. 1 cows and light hides, lb., 6c; No. 2's, 5c; heavy steers, No. 1, 6c; bulls and No. 2's, 5c; green calf, No. 1, 8c; No. 2's, 6½c; kip, No. 1, 7c; No. 2's, 5½c; cured No. 1 hides, 7½c; No. 2's, 6½c; No. 1 calf cured, 9½c; No. 2's, 8c; sheep pelts, 25@50c.

Tallow—Per lb., 3@3¼c.

Beeswax—Per lb., 20@25c.

Petroleum—Prime, white, Ohio test, 7¼c; water white, 8¼c; headlight, 9¼c; silver light, 9c; eocene, 10½c; stove gasoline, 9½c; 63 test naphtha, 7½c.

MAKE MONEY Speculate judiciously and avoid Risks. Our CO-OPERATIVE SYNDICATE PLAN, endorsed by leading financiers, an unprecedented success.

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DE WOLF & CO., Bankers and Brokers. BANK REFERENCES. 30 Broadway, N. Y. City.

Grain and Produce.

New York, Jan. 19.—Butter—Receipts 9,795 pkgs.; steady; western creamery, 13@20c; Elgins, 20c. Cheese—Receipts, 4,103 pkgs.; quiet; state large, 7½@11¼c; state small, 8@11½c; part skims, 4@8½c; full skims, 2½@3c. Eggs—Receipts, 6,929 pkgs.; steady; state and Pennsylvania, 16@16½c; western, 12@15c. Sugar—Raw quiet; granulated, 4¼c. Coffee—Quiet; No. 7, 10c.

Chicago, Jan. 19.—Close: Wheat—January, 77¼c; May, 79⅜c; July, 75⅝@75¾c; September, 74⅛c. Corn—January, 22⅛c; May, 24⅛@24¼c; July, 25¼@25⅜c; September, 26⅜c. Oats—January, 15⅜c; May, 18⅛c bid; July, 18⅜c. Pork—January, $7.70; May, $7.89@7.92. Lard—January, $3.90; Many, $4.02@4.05. Ribs—January, $4.02; May, $4.07 bid. Rye—Cash, 36½c; May, 40c. Barley—Cash, No. 3, 25@35c. Flax—Cash, 75c; cash northwestern, 77c; May, 77⅞@78c. Timothy—Cash, $2.65; February, $2.70; March, $2.75.

Buffalo, N. Y., Jan. 19.—(Special to The Blade.)—Cash market to-night closes as follows: Corn—No. 2 yellow, 26⅝c; No. 3 yellow, 26¼c; No. 2 mixed, 26½c; No. 3 mixed, 26c. Oats—No. 2 white, 22c; No. 3 white, 20½c; No. 4 white, 19c; No. 2 mixed, 19½c; No. 3 mixed, 18c. Wheat—No. 2 red, 93½c; No. 1 white, 94½c; rejected, 73c. Hay and Straw—No. 1 timothy, $12.00; No. 2 timothy, $10.50; No. 1 clover mixed, $9.50; wheat straw, $7.00; oat straw, $6.50. Market steady. Demand good.

Live Stock.

Union Stock Yards, Cleveland Jan. 19.—Bower & Bower say: Hogs—Receipts, 30 cars; market active and firm; good demand from both packers and shippers; Yorkers and lights, $3.60; mediums and heavies, $3.45; stags and roughs, $2.25@2.75; closing steady; all sold. Sheep and Lambs—Receipts, 4 cars; market weak to 10c lower; lambs, $3.50@4.85; sheep, $2.00@3.20; closing quiet. Cattle—Market quiet and unchanged.

East Buffalo, N. Y., Jan. 19.—(Eirich Bros.' report, exclusive to The Blade.)—Hogs—Receipts, 20 cars; market 5c higher; Yorkers, $3.75; pigs, $3.75@3.80; medium and heavy, $3.55@3.60. No cattle on sale. Sheep and Lambs—Receipts 25 cars; lambs active, closing firm; best, $5.00@5.10; sheep, strong.

Chicago, Jan. 19.—Hogs—Official receipts yesterday 30,037; shipments 8,171; estimated receipts to-day, 35,000; left over, 2,000; estimated receipts to-morrow, 46,000; market fairly active, shade weaker than opening; light, $3.30@3.60; mixed, $3.30@3.50; heavy, $3.15@3.50; rough, $3.15@3.20. Cattle—Official receipts yesterday, 16,704; shipments, 3,506; receipts to-day, 3,500; quiet but steady; beeves, $3.50@5.15; cows and heifers, $1.75@4.25; Texas steers, $3.00@4.20; stockers and feeders, $3.00@4.00. Sheep—Official receipts yesterday, 11,073; shipments, 1,229; receipts to-day, 15,000; quiet but steady.

DAY ON WALL STREET.

Close of the Stock Market at New York This Afternoon.

New York, Jan. 19.—The stock market opened dull and generally firm, with Sugar leading in point of activity. The stock mentioned was not affected by the reported reductions in the foreign and domestic grades of the product.

The stock market displayed little feature during the first hour's trading, and operators were apparently waiting for further developments in the general situation before engaging in extensive purchases. Firmness, however, was evident, and fractional gains occurred under the leadership of the high priced industrial stocks.

The appearance of indecision on the part of London as indicated in the prices for American securities cabled from that center chilled the bulls, and induced aggressive tactics by the bears and bulls without stocks. Important declines followed in some stocks, particularly Sugar and Tobacco. Near midday, however, the first named developed strength and advanced 1⅛ per cent to 117⅜, the general list becoming steady. The sales to noon were 86,500 shares.

New York, Jan. 19.—Money on call easy at 1½@2 per cent. Prime mercantile paper, 3½@4 per cent. Sterling exchange lower, with actual business in bankers' bills at $4.84⅝@4.85 for demand and at $4.87¼@4.87½ for 60 days; posted rates, $4.85½@4.88½; commercial bills, $4.83⅜. Silver certificates, $20,000 at 64⅝c. Bar silver, 64⅜c. Mexican dollars, 50⅝c.

London, Jan. 19.—Consols for money, 112 9-16; for account, 112 11-16.

Corrected daily by Kuhn & Co.

	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.
Jersey Cent.	102	103	102½	102½
Reading	27⅝	28	27⅝	27⅞
Ten. Coal & Iron	30⅜	30⅝	30¼	[illegible]
Atchison	14⅜	15	14⅜	14⅞
C. B. & Q.	75⅝	76⅛	75⅝	76⅛
Mo. Pacific	23⅜	23⅝	23⅛	23⅝
Northwest	104⅜	105⅛	104⅜	105⅛
N. P. pfd.	34	34⅛	34	34
Omaha	51½	52	51	51⅞
Rock Island	68⅞	69⅜	68⅞	69⅜
St. Paul	76⅞	77⅛	76⅞	77
Dist. & Cat. Feed	13⅞	14⅛	13⅞	14⅛
Chicago Gas	78⅜	79⅛	78⅜	79⅛
Gen. Elec.	34⅜	35⅛	34⅜	35
Leather pfd	63	64	63	63⅞
Sugar	116	118⅛	116	117⅜
Am. Tobacco	77½	77⅛	76⅜	77⅛
Erie	15	....	....	15⅛
L. & N.	51½	52⅛	51⅜	52⅛
Manhattan	91½	92⅛	90⅜	92⅛
K. T. pfd	31	31⅛	31	31⅛
S. T.	29⅜	29⅞	29⅛	29⅞
Pacific Mail	26⅛	....	....	26⅛
Western Union	85⅛	....	....	85⅛
Wabash pfd	17	....	....	17
C. C. C. & I.	29⅜	....	....	29⅜
Can. South.	46	46⅜	46	46⅛
Lake Shore	154⅛	....	....	154⅛
N. Y. C.	95	95	94⅞	95
Rubber	25⅛	....	....	25⅛
W. & L. E.	2⅞	2⅞	2	2⅞

Trade.

There has been no noticeable change in the general trade of the country during the past week.

New York Cotton Market.

New York, Jan. 19.—Early Liverpool advices were indifferent, and caused the cotton market here to open easy at a decline of 1 to 5 points. There was little or no speculative interest at first, but later English news showing decided firmness caused some activity. Trading was moderate, and prices advanced 5 to 6 points above the opening on foreign buying. Local houses were the sellers. Receipts were about as estimated, and had no bearing on the trading. At 11 o'clock the market was quiet but steady at a net advance of 6 points. Spot cotton quiet; middling uplands, 7 3-16c; middling gulf, 7 7-16c. Futures opened easy; sales, 3,200 bales. January, $6.85 bid; February, $6.90; March, $6.97; April, $7.01; May, $7.09; June, $7.13; July, $7.15; August, $7.16; September, $6.90; October, $6.80; November, $6.80; December, $6.85.

Wool.

Bradstreet's says of the past week's wool market: "The wool market at Boston has shown more activity, sales reported this week footing up to nearly 5,000,000 pounds domestic and about 2,500,000 pounds foreign. Buying has been generally by the larger manufacturers, some mills having taken big lines of wool. Sales include about 1,700,000 pounds Australian, 1,000,000 pounds of which was taken in one block; 2,500,000 pounds of territory, and 1,400,000 pounds of fleeces. The movement in fleeces was mostly of medium grades, fine wools ruling slow. Staple territory wools are in good demand, and will command the full market—34@35c scoured for fine medium and fine, with common staple at 33@34c. Australian wools are generally held firm, and much larger lines could be sold if dealers were disposed to accept the price. Next London sale opens January 19."

All men should read Thos. Slater's offer on page 5.